370998

JOHN BULL

Vol. XV. No. 378 | SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1913. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page ii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

THE 'HAT TRICK'

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT!

SEE PAGE 322.

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

The objects of the League are:—IN RELIGION: To stamp out Cant, Self-righteousness and Sectarian animosities. IN SOCIAL LIFE: To stimulate a spirit of robust self-reliance in place of the artificial protection of grandmotherly legislation—and IN POLITICS: To promote the establishment of a BUSINESS GOVERNMENT in substitution for the present effete and dishonest Party System.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the General Secretary,

93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a member of the League, for which I enclose P.O. for One Shilling, in payment of my Annual Subscription.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

(Membership Badge Sixpence Extra.)

What is your Number?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following claims have been received:—

Mr. A. E. JONES, Steel Cross House, nr. Tunbridge Wells. August 2nd. No. 630,001.

Mr. B. FELTHAM, Watling Street Dining Rooms, Radlett, Herts. August 9th. No. 178,801.

Miss E. M. WILLIAMS, "Inglis," Washfields Road, Meole Brace, Shrewsbury. July 26th. No. 042,252.

Mr. A. HIGGINS, 2, Rose Cottage, Island Road, Sturry, Canterbury. August 9th. No. 326,733.

Mr. T. CALLENDER, 50, Devonshire Road, Harrow. August 9th. No. 074,486.

Mr. J. DRIFFIELD, 135, Albert Road, Middlesbrough. August 2nd. No. 793,357.

Mr. C. R. McRAE, 36, Grovedale Road, Upper Holloway. August 16th. No. 762,827.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of August 23rd:—

006813	181831	386751	646446	883655
023174	198987	410640	658627	874612
040843	220194	438158	697168	926879
080326	236573	478865	717770	947918
098999	246854	491559	738176	969220
124424	265903	513651	756386	975638
136137	274846	537241	772809	982229
146942	309875	558368	819719	995412
153840	326468	586355	839767	A074212
158131	371213	622028	846308	A107289

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 3RD.)

FOOTBALL COMPETITION. No. 1.

SEE PAGE 315

"JOHN BULL" ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, September 6.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Derby County	**v.**	**Sheffield United**
Bradford City	**v.**	**Aston Villa**
Sunderland	**v.**	**Newcastle United**
Everton	**v.**	**Preston N.E.**
W. Bromwich A.	**v.**	**Burnley**
Bolton Wanderers	**v.**	**Oldham Athletic**
Chelsea	**v.**	**Tottenham Hotspur**
Blackpool	**v.**	**Hull City**
Clapton Orient	**v.**	**Fulham**
Grimsby Town	**v.**	**Notts County**
Lincoln City	**v.**	**Barnsley**
Notts Forest	**v.**	**Wolverhampton W.**
West Ham United	**v.**	**Swindon**
Southampton	**v.**	**Exeter City**
Reading	**v.**	**Millwall**
Crystal Palace	**v.**	**Portsmouth**
Coventry	**v.**	**Brighton & Hove**
Watford	**v.**	**Southend**
Norwich City	**v.**	**Northampton**
Gillingham	**v.**	**Q. P. Rangers**

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, Football Competition No. 1, so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, September 5th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize £1,500 will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on September 6th. In the event of no entrance form being received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £300 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct results short of the full number. In addition £150 will be paid to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the next highest number of correct forecasts. Further we shall award to every competitor forecasting 16 or more results correctly a season ticket to any football ground the competitor may select. Winners of these special prizes have the option of receiving the cash value of the ticket. In addition, £100 cash will be awarded to the lady sending the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from "Mary Bull." (This is a contingent prize and will not be awarded should a mauve coupon win the £1,500, the £300 or the £150 prizes.)

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition, the First Prize of £1,500, or the Contingent Prizes of £300 and £150, as well as the special £100 Mauve Coupon prize for ladies, will be equally divided.

8. No coupon bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XV. No. 378. Week ending Saturday, August 30th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of **"John Bull"** for **AUGUST 23rd, 1913,** bearing on its Cover the Number **284,996.**

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

Ramsay Snubbed.

The Chesterfield election was another snub for the egregious Labour "leader" and ex-school teacher, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, and, at the same time, one more proof that there is really no such thing as a Labour "Party."

Our Food.

Have you read those statistics showing to what an extent we are dependent upon foreign food supplies? One of the first steps of a Business Government would be to see that we fed ourselves.

News and Views.

At the recent meeting of the Institute of Journalists, Mr. Donald, the Managing Editor of the *Daily Chronicle*, protested against the increasing domination of the news department over the literary or editorial section. In our opinion, however, this is a healthy symptom. We shall never get truthful news so long as it has to be coloured to fit in with Party policy. We wonder that no one has started a paper consisting entirely of news.

Newspaper Ethics.

A curious instance of newspaper ethics, by the way, is that while the majority of the competitors of the *Daily Mail* have profited by the news of the great air race organised by that enterprising organ, they refrain from mentioning its name. Reading some of the accounts, indeed, those persons who do not happen to be readers of the *Mail* might even conclude that the show was exclusively their own journal's.

A Witness of the Truth.

What a bright little weekly the *New Witness* is—and how full of common-sense! Here, for instance, is its method of ticking off Lord Newton's Betting Inducements Bill:—

> The importance of boots for Tommy cannot, of course, be exaggerated, but it is open to argument that if one man be hypnotised into backing a horse by the suggestion of advertisement another may be induced to spend his substance on steamer trips to Margate, in an orgy of cinema, or a prolonged feast of Heinz Baked Beans, through the same agency. It is equally reprehensible to spend the money that should go to buy food for your wife on bananas as on backing horses—but any suggestion to suppress the advertisements of railway companies or general dealers would be greeted with the outcry this particular Bill deserves.

And yet we understand the Bill when re-introduced next session is to have the blessing of the Government! We venture to suggest that it would be better occupied in passing a Bill for the registration and taxation of bookmakers.

Loreburn's "Lollipops."

Contrast the above robust common-sense with this maudlin drivel from the *Lyceum Banner*—a spiritualistic organ—apropos of Lord Loreburn's Bill to prohibit newspaper competitions:—

> The Bill has our hearty support, as it is in agreement with one of the items of our Four-Fold Pledge. We wish to see the temptations to do wrong removed and the inducements to do right because it is right increased.

Perhaps our spooky contemporary will explain to us what there is "wrong" in constructing a "Bullet" from the various "examples" which we publish every week. For its edification, we may explain that the Competition consists in making a sentence of not more than three words, the initial letter of the first and last of the words in such sentence being taken from any of those comprised in the example: thus, taking "Lyceum Banner" as the example, we at once get the following "Bullet"—"Bally rot"!

Imperial Politics.

How little interest Members of Parliament take in the affairs of Empire is always well illustrated when the Indian Budget comes round. The other evening, whilst Mr. Montague was dilating upon our rule of three hundred million Indian subjects, there were not more than a dozen members present in the House. Well might Mr. Chamberlain implore us to "Think Imperially"! In this connection, we welcome the protest of the Birmingham *Daily Post* against "the dull-minded and unimaginative lot of caucus bred hacks, of whom the nation should rid itself at the first chance, replacing them by men of a different temper who will at least make a pretence of earning the money which the nation pays them."

£1,500 and Free Football Season Tickets. Final Coupon this week.

Prattling of Peace.

"The *effective* work of the twentieth Universal Peace Congress began to-day" said the *Daily News and Leader* last week. The italics are ours. We are anxious to know what is the nature of the effective work accomplished by this body of well-meaning but ultra-optimistic men who gathered together in Andrew Carnegie's Palace of Peace at the Hague. Have they eradicated from human nature the eternal disposition to resort to arms in defence of real or imaginary rights or for the gratification of national ambition? Have they succeeded in annihilating the patriotic sentiment which makes it *dulce et decorum pro patria mori?* Have they arrested the growth of armaments, the expansion of armies? Have they caused swords to be beaten into ploughshares and changed the red blood of the young men of this present generation to water? Have they convinced Germany that her "vaulting ambition" is a menace to the peace of the world? Have they taught France to acquiesce in the loss of the fair provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, and to obliterate from the vocabulary of her people the term *tête de cochon* as applied to her past, present, and potential German enemies? We think not. But until these things be done the labours of the Universal Peace Congress will be as "effective" as the assistance of the fly on the wheel, and no more.

Obstinate Chancellor.

The War Office has experienced considerable difficulty in securing an adequate number of competent operators for the Field Telegraph section of the Royal Engineers. Anxious to stimulate enlistment in this important unit, the Secretary for War, with the full approval of the Postmaster General, has recommended to the Treasury that time expired military telegraphists entering the ordinary postal service shall be allowed to count their service with the colours in furtherance of their claim to a "civil" pension. Mr. Lloyd George, however, as head of the Treasury, has thought fit to ignore the representations of the Ministers primarily concerned, and has steadily refused to give effect to their recommendations. We are assured, moreover, that a civil telegraphist who enlists with the Royal Engineers and subsequently returns to the Postal Telegraphic service loses the pensionary credit of his civil employment prior to enlistment. Such a state of affairs operates as a severe discouragement to the recruiting of the Field Telegraph Corps and excites much dissatisfaction among army operators. It is a mischievous anomaly, which places the efficiency of a vital military service at the mercy of the Chancellor's whim.

Britain to the Fore.

It is refreshing to know that there is at least one American who is broad-minded enough to give Great Britain the place that is her due amongst the nations of the world, though what treatment he will receive for doing so at the hands of Yankee newspaper editors when he returns to the U.S.A. we shudder to imagine. The courageous gentleman in question is Dr. Emanuel de Marnay Baruch, the delegate of the New York State Medical Association at the recent International Congress of Medicine in London. Questioned as to which nation's delegates made the best impression at the Congress, Dr. Baruch replied: "Great Britain. England has proved herself first in medical science, *as in everything else.*" This is gratifying; but our satisfaction is tempered by the thought of the still more exalted position we might attain in all departments of human achievement were it not for the clog and shackles of Party politics. But, reading the signs of the times, we have hope.

Who is to Blame?

The "Post Office depositor" has been the recipient of much wordy sympathy in the House of Commons and in the Party Press, but it would appear that his well-being receives scant consideration at the hands of certain Insurance authorities. There is an aged widow at Sheffield living with her son, who is her sole support. Eight weeks ago the man fell ill, and a few days later his illness was notified to the local Insurance Committee as required in the case of deposit contributors. Though fully entitled to a measure of sickness benefit, the poor man has not yet received a penny piece. His mother has made repeated application to the Post Office, only to be fobbed off every time with an airy assurance that the money will be forthcoming "in due course," or "in a few days." Meanwhile, mother and son are reduced to the verge of destitution. The Clerk to the Sheffield Insurance Committee declares that he certified the man's claim and forwarded it to the Insurance Commissioners at the beginning of last month. Who, then, is to blame for the scandalous and cruel delay which has robbed these poor people of their benefit in the period of their utmost need? It is this sort of thing which is making the Insurance Act so unpopular.

A Customers' Combine.

Following the lead of the little coterie of officials employed by the Bristol Corporation whose action we criticised some time ago, Government servants resident at Reading, who are said to number seven hundred, have formed a Civil Service Association to induce local shopkeepers to quote special discount terms for members. These unfair tactics have naturally excited considerable resentment in trading circles. Moreover, there is a widespread feeling among the public at large that the scheme of the newly-formed body is, besides being unjust to tradesmen, inimical to the interests of the general body of customers. It is felt that, in these days of keen competition and modest profits, traders granting preferential treatment to a section of the community may be constrained to recoup themselves at the expense of the rest. We are by no means sure that such fears are unfounded. The tradesmen of Reading might well take a leaf from the book of the civil servants, and combine in resistance to the Association's demands. With a solid front and no "blacklegging," they should win "hands down." What says the local Chamber of Commerce?

A Radical Rift.

When Mr. Joseph Martin, K.C., first wooed and won the electors of East St. Pancras, he clearly defined his political position, promising to give "general support" to the policy of his Majesty's Liberal Ministers, but reserving to himself the right to oppose them should they at any time depart from the straight path of high democratic principle. The "official" Radicals of the division were delighted with their member's "sturdy independence"—on the platform—but when they found that "Joe" really meant what he said and intended to act upon it in the division lobbies, their joy and pride were turned to ashes. Mr. Martin's occasional votes "agin the Government" have sorely tried the patience of the local caucus, and his action in supporting the Tory Marconi vote of censure proved the "last straw." "Joe must go," cried the maddened "bosses," but "Joe" apparently intends to stop where he is—at any rate, till the next general election. Meanwhile, he has resigned from the "official" association and established a rival organisation with an "independent" programme of its own. We *are* getting on.

Result of Our Fifth Cricket Contest. See page 293 for Winners.

The Horrors of Cleethorpes.

One of the townsmen of Cleethorpes, a Mr. W. B. Winder to wit, is terribly distressed concerning the "goings on" in that Lincolnshire seaside town. All history, says he, in solemn exordium, has proved that the desecration of the Sabbath Day has led to the downfall of nations, towns, and individuals; and we gather that woe must come to Cleethorpes, not only on account of its Continental Sunday, but of its Continental Monday as well. Its Sunday consists of "cheap trips, trams, traps, amusements, newspaper selling, shoeblacks, football, and golf," and its rest of the week of all these things, apparently, plus "cripples, blind beggars, screeching music spoilers, objectionable sights and touters"; also, probably, cats, and dogs, and policemen, and beer, and lodgings, and joy-wheels, and whelks, and shrimps, and other lures for a pleasure-loving constituency. Whether, up to this date, Cleethorpes has imported a sanitary inspector to examine its meat is not vouchsafed unto us, but even without him it looks like being presently numbered with Greece and Rome, Carthage and Nineveh, Tyre and Moses—unless, as the woeful Winder suggests, the Town Council rises in its might and puts its heel on the hydra-headed monster of iniquity and depravity which has sprung up in the midst. In the meantime we shall have to postpone taking our cure there, lest the heavens fall.

Well-Merited Censure.

The Guardians of the Poor for the Union of Blean, in Kent, have been censured by the Local Government Board for their callous neglect of a sick man who was permitted to die without medical attention. For the first two weeks of his illness the sufferer was visited by the Medical Officer of the Union, and was then found to be in a serious condition, with advanced disease of the heart. At the end of a fortnight, however, the Guardians deprived him of medical aid, on the ground that he was an "insured person" and might therefore secure attention from a "panel" doctor. With a cynical indifference to the man's fate, the Guardians appear to have troubled no more about him. He had, it seems, made no provision for medical treatment under the Act, having probably been rejected by the Approved Societies on account of his impaired health. The poor fellow struggled on for another two weeks without skilled attention of any kind, and then died. The Local Government Board's censure, while convicting the Guardians of a grave dereliction of duty, makes it clear that an "insured person" who is in fact without medical aid remains entitled to attention from the medical officers of the Poor Law.

M.P.s and Canada.

A party of M.P.s are now touring Canada on the cheap, and presently they will return with some beautiful stories about this emigration-boosted Eldorado. Meanwhile, they are being dined and wined and led about from place to place like a crowd of Cook's tourists, but with less chance of making independent study of the country and realising the truth about the great emigration lie—the truth as realised by thousands of British emigrants much as a Winnipeg reader has realised it. "I have been out here for three years," says he, "and there is not a place between here and Edmonton of over 300 population I have not been into. I have worked a good deal harder out here than I ever did in Yorkshire, and now, after three years, still have nothing to show. Thousands of English would like to get back, if they could." Let them continue praying for their fare home. And, above all, let them turn the deaf ear to the inspired fairy-diddles of the tourist M.P.s.

A Prefect of Police.

With characteristic impudence, the Chief Constable of Blackpool has hurled an ultimatum at the heads of the local Justices. Several visitors were recently prosecuted for the heinous offence of kicking a ball in the streets, and Alderman Grime expressed some doubt as to whether they might properly be convicted. The alderman's misgivings were shared by certain of his colleagues, whereat the chief policeman was mightily wroth, and uttered a tremendous threat. "If the Bench is going to do this," he heatedly exclaimed, "I will not bring such cases." The Chief Constable demands, in effect, that persons whom he thinks fit to bring before the Court shall be convicted out of hand without hesitancy or deliberation. Instead of properly rebuking such an outburst of petulance on the part of a salaried official, the Chairman made haste to "climb down" with a few soothing remarks anent the alleged dangers of ball-kicking in the streets. There will soon be no hat to fit the cranium of Blackpool's Big Man Blue.

An Obnoxious System.

Sempstresses in the outfitting and allied trades who have hitherto been required to purchase cottons and needles from employers at cost price or something over, will be much interested in a recent decision of the Old Street Magistrate. An apprentice cap-maker sued her employers under the Truck Act for the return of seven shillings and threepence which had been deducted from her slender wages in this way. It was explained that the practice was almost universal in the outfitting trade, and that the purchase of cottons and needles involved each worker in an outlay of eightpence or ninepence per week. The Magistrate held that the system was a contravention of the Truck Act, which forbids all deductions from wages except such as may be agreed in writing between employers and their servants. The latter proviso appears to afford a dangerous loophole, even if the Magistrate's ruling be accepted as an authoritative definition of the existing law. "Contracting out" of the wholesome provisions of the Truck Act should be forbidden.

Health and H_2O.

Rhosneigr is an Anglesey seaside resort of growing popularity, but its prospects appear to be seriously threatened by the inadequacy of its water supply. The local Council has so far failed to rise to its responsibilities in the matter, and residents and visitors are still to a large extent dependent upon private sources for the means of cleanliness, with shortage and irregularity of service as an almost inevitable result. In all friendliness, we would remind the civic authorities that their inaction in so vital a matter is calculated gravely to impede the development of their town, with consequent severe injury to the business interest of its inhabitants. Lest we be accused of meddling in affairs which do not concern us, we must further insist that an adequate supply of pure water is of supreme hygienic importance and that the existing state of affairs is thus fraught with grave peril to public health. This aspect of the matter would appear to be well within the province of the Local Government Board.

Motor Cycles at the Lakes.

It is suggested by Canon Rawnsley that if it is legitimate for motor-cyclists to turn the beautiful roads of the Lake District into a racing track, it ought also to be legitimate to turn them into one for steam-rollers in the interests of manufacturers who are anxious to test their hill-climbing capacity. As a choice, we would much rather steam-rollers made a racing track of the Lake District than of the streets of London, where there is such a horrible crush already.

How to do the "Hat Trick." - See page 322.

Stupidity and Spleen.

At a fête organised by the Chelmsford Football Club it was decided to "raffle" a bicycle in aid of the funds. The scheme was a popular one, and tickets were freely disposed of for a small entrance fee, good fun and good business being thus admirably combined. No sooner had the "draw" taken place, however, than the local police pounced upon three of the promoters of the project, and summoned them to appear at the police court under the musty, fusty Lotteries Act of good old George the Fourth. If the police acted upon their own initiative, they must be as mean-spirited a set of "spoil-sports" as are to be found in the Three Kingdoms, always excepting the magistrates before whom the defendants were tried. These amiable Pecksniffs went out of their way to fine each man a sovereign and fourteen shillings and sixpence costs. They inflicted these spiteful and ridiculous penalties in the full knowledge that the "lottery" had been heartily enjoyed by all concerned and had redounded to the advantage of local sport. What nasty old women they must be!

Civic Sweating.

Some time ago, we suggested that the district of Colwyn in North Wales was a ratepayers' elysium, the levy for "general expenses" amounting to no more than twopence-halfpenny in the pound. Certain recent proceedings of the local Council furnish an interesting illustration of the methods by which the rates have been kept down to so bewitchingly modest a figure. It was proposed to advance the wages of roadmen, within the Council's area, from fifteen to eighteen shillings per week. On a division the belated increase was carried, but it was strenuously opposed by Mr. J. Llewelyn Davies, who apparently holds that half-a-crown is a fair wage for a day's labour extending from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an hour's interval at midday. Even with the increment now granted, the remuneration accorded to the men scarcely amounts to a living wage in the present era of high prices, while it certainly leaves no margin for either comfort or thrift. We fancy that upon maturer reflection Mr. J. L. Davies will repent his ungenerous vote.

A Wily Wangler.

Mr. C. A. Millman, the Radical Agent for the South-Eastern Division of Cornwall, is an old electioneering hand, and is doubtless "up to every move on the board." At a recent political garden party, this worthy made a fiery speech in the course of which he referred to the protracted dispute between masters and men at the St. Austell clay pits. "I don't care whether the men are right or wrong," he declared. "I am with the men all the time." Now, while this statement was neither laudable nor intelligent, it was undoubtedly "correct" by the rules of the game, for the men at St. Austell have votes, and any Party hack who is worth his salt knows that he must be "all things to all men," if he would be sure of fooling some.

"Official."

About June 4th last the manager of a place of entertainment in Scotland paid tobacco licence with his Excise licence duty. Notwithstanding this, he received on July 5th a peremptory note from the Customs and Excise authorities demanding "immediate payment of tobacco licence." He at once wrote, pointing out that it had been paid. "Sir," began the official reply, "as the tobacco licence was paid with the liquor licence this current year, it will not be necessary to take out another licence." This is the grotesque foolery and idiotic impertinence which keeps so many of our Civil Servants "busy." Nothing like the strenuous life!

A Bad Precedent.

The magisterial methods of Mr. Horace Smith (to whom we also refer elsewhere) are certainly peculiar. At the instance of the police, Mr. J. Humphrey, of Chelsea, prosecuted two of his employees for theft. One of the prisoners, a lad of 15, was discharged; but the case against his companion, a man of 27, was investigated with all due formality. After a prolonged hearing and a plausible speech by the defendant's solicitor, Mr. Horace Smith decided to convict, and, describing the case as a serious one, sentenced the thief to one month's imprisonment. Later in the day Mr. Humphrey was surprised to learn that the culprit was at large and had been recognised by one of his lady assistants. It then transpired that the man's brother-in-law had appeared at the police court after the departure of solicitors and witnesses, and had asked the magistrate to give the prisoner the option of a fine. The obliging cadi assented, and the thief went free. The formal revision of a recorded sentence in the absence of the parties primarily interested is another illustration of Mr. Smith's unfitness for his post.

Justice First.

The Report of the Select Committee on Post Office Wages will be hailed with satisfaction by the lower grades of postal workers. It is recommended that postmen, sorters and certain auxiliary workers be accorded substantial increases in the maximum wage limits to which they may attain, and that provision be made for adequate "overtime" payment in periods of stress. We scarcely think taxpayers will begrudge the increased expenditure which these very reasonable concessions will involve. Clerical employees in the larger offices are promised substantial increments of pay, but we wish the Committee had seen fit to urge a fairer rate of remuneration to sub-postmasters in respect of Insurance work. The burden upon these officers, many of whom work single-handed, has been extremely heavy, and their claims have hitherto met with the scantiest consideration. The Government should place justice before generosity in the administration of their grandiose "social" scheme.

Gymkhana Snobs.

The Hon. Secretary of the Bartley Horticultural and Industrial Society's Show being Major F. B. Dalrymple, he is apparently responsible for the form of the printed programme, especially as it is signed by him. In the races and games careful distinctions are made between the base-born herd and the salt of the earth, for all the races are allotted to "ladies and gentlemen," with "musical chairs" for "farmers and tradesmen." It is also announced that "All information can be obtained from any gentlemen of the Committee"—who are all "Esq."—which apparently excludes any applications to "Mr." H. G. Brown and "Mr." H. Norbury, two members who are in the farmer and tradesman class. If this form of programme is to be retained next year, it should be frankly entitled "Programme of Sports, etc., for Snobs."

"No Place Like Home."

In the absence of the Chaplain, a *locum tenens* in the person of the Rev. E. A. Lovett, Rural Dean, appeared at Southampton Workhouse the other Sunday morning to conduct the usual service. Accepting the statement of the local paper as gospel, "The hymn, 'We love the place,' and others, were heartily sung by the large number of men and women present." Enthusiasm for a workhouse is so unusual on the part of the inmates that our curiosity is aroused as to the reason thereof. Can Mr. Lovett explain to us why they love it? Is it because it is such a charming place to get out of?

By the way, don't forget the Pen Coupon. See page iii. of Cover.

The Ulster Peril.

The outlook in North-East Ulster grows blacker with the passing days, and a grave crisis may at any moment be reached. A grim responsibility rests upon his Majesty's Ministers, most of whom are taking their holiday ease with apparent indifference to the tragic possibilities of the situation. Recent events in Derry and Belfast have served to hush the voice of mutual recrimination among political partisans, and there is yet a faint glimmer of hope that out of the present evil ultimate good may come. We have all along insisted that the Home Rule Bill is not destined to come into operation, but the zealots of Ulster do not understand the tricks and shuffles of the Party game. Candour, not coercion, can alone dispel the miasma of suspicion and doubt which may at any moment light up with the lurid glare of revolution.

Not Us.

We may as well say a word or two here to prevent any present or future misunderstanding amongst those who have seen the report in the morning papers that "John Bull was bound over at the North London Police Court yesterday on the charge of assaulting his wife, Mary Ann Bull." It wasn't us.

The Week's "Chestnut."

CUSTOMER (*at Restaurant*): "Waiter, these are not the right sardines. I want *Pineaus*. What brand have you brought me?"

WAITER: "Gawd-knows!"

RESULT OF OUR FIFTH GREAT CRICKET COMPETITION.

ANOTHER KEEN CONTEST.

MANY CLEVER FORECASTS SUBMITTED.

We have to announce that there was again a tie for the **Prize of £150** *in connection with our Fifth Great Cricket Competition, two competitors giving nineteen correct results of the selected matches. These two gentlemen are:—*

Mr. A. ALLEN,
13, Robinson Street, Ardwick, Manchester.

and

Mr. F. BUTTRUM,
Green Cottage, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

Five other entrants sent in coupons accurately forecasting eighteen results, and therefore divide the **Second Prize of £75**. *The lady included in this category was fortunate enough to select a "Mary Bull" coupon on which to make her effort, and therefore, in addition to her £15 share, will also receive* **£50 for the most correct Mauve Coupon** *forwarded.*

Miss W. DRAWATER,
39, Faroe Road, West Kensington, W.

Mr. A. O. WRIGHT,
Aberdare House, Ripon, Yorks.

Mr. HERBERT COLLINGS,
4, Elmhurst Road, Gosport.

Mr. JOSEPH BEECROFT,
22, Stanley View, Armley, Leeds.

and

Mr. GEORGE HARDY,
Middle Tower, Tower of London.

In addition to the above remarkably keen judges of the game, we are pleased to find that no less than twenty-five competitors forecasted seventeen correct results, and nearly four times that number gave sixteen. We think this augurs well for the competition for our Mammoth Football Prizes being of a close and sporting character.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating in the "Edinburgh Evening News" that: "I myself have seen Mr. N. S. Percival, the pilot of the Dunne, flying quite cheerfully, and waving both arms to the people on the ground, while his passenger was STANDING UP *and* WAVING HIS LEGS,"

MR. C. G. GREY (Editor of the *Aeroplane*),
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "At this time of the year when everyone is away, the fashionable quarters of Paris have a deserted look . . . it is an opportunity that conscientious burglars DO NOT FAIL TO NEGLECT,"

THE SUNDAY TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing a short story containing the statement that one of the characters "held out his HAND *with a sudden smile such as had not* IRRADIATED IT *for full ten years,"*

THE PENNY PICTORIAL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a paragraph on "How to eat a pineapple" that: "The skin of the pineapple is very rough and irregular and is apt to scrape the throat if it is not REMOVED *before the pineapple is* EATEN. *Those who have swallowed pine-apples* WHOLE *have henceforth* PREFERRED *to have the pine-apples* SKINNED,"

IDEAS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following advertisement in the "West London Observer": "Youth (17) smart, wants a BIRTH; *been messenger in Post Office,"*

MR. W. WHITE (2, Thornton Avenue, Chiswick),
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating of a character in a short story entitled "Treachery Somewhere", that: "Wriggling away, she BURST INTO TEARS IN A FRESH PLACE,"

MR. C. RANDOLPH LICHFIELD
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing in an advertisement in the "Westminster and Pimlico News," dated Aug 15th, that: "The SPRING *and* SUMMER *will* SOON BE UPON US,"

"THE WESTMINSTER TAILORS" (58 and 60, Rochester Row, Westminster),
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a novel entitled "The Man who drove the Car" that: "Betsy came toward me with her VOICE AS WHITE AS A SHEET,"

MR. MAX PEMBERTON
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in its report of the discovery of a body that it "*IT CONTAINED *some* CLOTHING, *whilst the* COAT, VEST, TROUSERS, BOOTS, HAT *and* STICK WERE FOUND SOME DISTANCE FROM THE REMAINS,"

THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL (Dublin)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. *to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."*

Your Last Chance to Win—Free Football Season Tickets and £1,500. See page 315.

UNCONVENTIONAL THOUGHTS.

By the Editor.

[*The views expressed in these articles represent the unsettled personal convictions of the Editor, as distinguished from the settled policy of this journal; they are, therefore, written in the first person—(very) singular.*]

VII.—THRIFT.

Whether "Hamlet" was written by William Shakespeare, or by some other man of the same name, or anyone else, I feel sure that the author had me in mind when he enjoined—"Thrift, thrift, Horatio," for, speaking generally, I can recall no sentence of three words which, in my view, more concisely connotes all that is mean and contemptible in human nature than "a thrifty person." If I were compiling a new dictionary I should write: "Thrift—parsimony; misery; a morbid dread of a 'rainy day.'"

Christianity and Thrift.

Before I go any further, let me put myself right with the parsons. When you are saying unconventional things it is just as well to make it clear that you are not "wicked." Wherefore, my brethren, we will see what the Bible teaches us—as we did in the case of Gambling and Drink. Of course, I know that the Bible is about to be further "revised," with the object of "bringing it more in accord with modern knowledge," but I do not believe that the Revising Committee will be able to upset *my* faith in regard to either of my themes. The guidance is too explicit. Thus: "Take no thought for the morrow; for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself." That is what *I* say. A man who is always thinking about To-morrow never enjoys To-day; he who is always looking out for a rainy day never notices the sunny ones—he lives in a mental mackintosh, and his only toys are an umbrella and a barometer. Reflect, too, upon the meanness of thrift. Ask a thrifty man to lend you a sovereign, and he will talk about his duty to his family. It is no use saying to him, in the words of Matthew: "Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee, turn not thou away." He is doubtless a good Christian, but he does not believe in taking his Bible literally—at any rate, when it speaks about lending. And he will tell you that it really does not mean what it says when it tells us not to lay up for ourselves treasures upon earth, and not to worry about what we shall eat or drink or wherewithal we shall be clothed. Oh, no, the New Version will put that right; and the Revisors will also make it clear that we are *not* to sell all that we have and give to the poor—only our old clothes, and things of that sort—and even then it is better to *sell* them to the poor, and thus preserve their self-respect! But that is not the Christian teaching—which, in a sentence, is to have as good a time as possible from day to day, and to trust in Providence for the future. Having thus established my proposition that it is not "wicked" to declaim against Thrift, we will now look at it in some of its other aspects.

The Social Aspect.

What a miserable, uninteresting creature the thrifty person is! Like the teetotaler and the vegetarian, he is afraid to *live*. He is always engaged in dying—and worrying about the expenses of his funeral. Whatever his means, he will travel third-class, eat at the nastiest restaurants, buy shoddy, bad-fitting clothes, and furnish his house on the principle of a doll's house—two of a kind everywhere, from the parlour mantelpiece to the washhand stand. He will maintain that there is no real difference between a Curtain Road "suite" and the finest examples of old Chippendale or oak, and he will insist upon having his custard made with "cooking" eggs. He will walk any distance in the rain to save a penny 'bus fare, and he will go about all day like contemptible old Autolycus, gathering up all "the unconsidered trifles" he can lay his hands on. I know one millionaire peer whose great joy consists in sneaking matches from restaurants, and I also know a wealthy man who follows his family and guests about the house turning off the electric light after them. They are both known as "thrifty" persons. As a matter of fact, they are reckless in their waste of the opportunities of life; they are guilty of the greatest extravagance; and when their pages are turned up in the great Book of Life, the entry against their names will be—"Life wasted; reckless spendthrifts of human happiness."

The Mischief of the Money-box.

But if "thrift" is a contemptible characteristic of adult life, how pitiable it is when instilled into the minds of the young. Oh, that Money Box! What crimes against the rising generation is it responsible for! Meanness, cupidity, avarice, cunning. No young child should ever know that there is such a thing in the world as money. It should be taught to look out upon the broad expanse of the universe as a Garden of Eden, laden with good and beautiful things—to be partaken of at will, the only restriction being the equal right of every other child to a share of them. Just try to imagine the effect upon the character of a little child, with a boxfull of sixpences and coppers at home, as it sees a poor starving beggar, or a hungry, shivering urchin in the street! Consider what kind of *Karma* (as the Buddhists call it) or spirit force, would be created by the reflection of that little miser—"Thank goodness, *I'm* all right!"—compared with the divine effluence of a helping hand, or even of a sympathetic thought! Acting on my suggestion, a friend once tried an experiment with his two children. They were both girls, and there was a difference of less than eighteen months in their ages. To the elder he gave a money-box, and in it he placed sixpence every week. To the younger he gave a sixpence every week, and told her to spend it as she liked. That was twenty years ago. My little spendthrift friend of those days is now a happy wife, full of laughter and joy—popular and beloved by all. The little miser is a Post Office clerk, wears spectacles, and believes in Votes for Women. I assert, solemnly, that that money-box is responsible for it all!

Prudence versus Thrift.

I am not, however, prepared, dear friends, to decry Prudence—which is as distinct from "thrift," as popularly understood, as drunkenness is from drink. But all the ordinary risks of life may be guarded against by reasonable insurance. An Endowment Policy for each of the youngsters, a Life Policy in favour of the wife, and if employment be unsettled and precarious, a little fund, built up by small and regular contributions, for emergencies—all these things are Prudence, and are praiseworthy. I am, of course, thinking of the comparatively small class who are outside the pale of the State scheme. As regards the rest, all they have to do is to hand Mr. Lloyd George a fourpenny-bit, and he will do the rest! But my point is that, whether you look to the State or to your own commonsense, it is possible to provide against a "rainy day" without setting up a mackintosh and umbrella emporium.

Here endeth the Seventh Thought.

A MONSTROUS FINE.

LONDON MAGISTRATE'S WANTON INJUSTICE.

Mr. Walter Keeble, of Stockwell Road, S.W., has a twelve-year-old daughter who for years past has suffered acute ill-health. She has been attended by many doctors, and has for a long time been an out-patient, first at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, and, later, at University College Hospital. Although cognisant of the child's malady and of her consequent unfitness for regular attendance at school, the L.C.C. Education Authorities have never ceased to worry her parents, and although referred to the hospital authorities they have persisted in presenting the father with all manner of official forms and notices, even at the most critical and anxious stages of the girl's illness. Mr. Keeble, moreover, was strictly enjoined by the doctors that he must on no account send his child to school or subject her to the least strain or excitement.

TIMELY TYRANNY.

The child at length became so ill that Dr. Poynton, of University College Hospital, ordered her immediate admission as an in-patient, with a view to an operation. This propitious moment was selected by the L.C.C. authorities for the sending of a notice to Mr. Keeble ordering him to take his child at once to Denmark Hill for the purpose of an examination by the Council's Medical Officer. It was pleasantly suggested that the girl was possibly defective in intellect. Mr. Keeble reminded the authorities that they were already possessed of all needful information with reference to the case, and he very properly refused to accede to their grossly unreasonable demands. In June last the poor child underwent an operation for appendicitis, and was left in an extremely exhausted condition. At almost the same time Mr. Keeble was required by the Education officials to take her to a Special School, with threats of pains and penalties should he refuse to comply. A day or two later, while the child was lying between life and death, the father was served with a Police Court summons in respect of her non-attendance at school, and of his failure to submit her for medical examination. This summons was issued at the instance of the Education officials. They were fully aware of the child's continued illness. They had been referred to the hospital authorities, and might, if they had done their duty, have been apprised of her critical condition.

WILFULLY BLIND "JUSTICE."

The summons was heard on July 9th, at the Lambeth Police Court, before Mr. Horace Smith. Education Officers appeared in support of "the charge." The father, distracted with anxiety as to his child's condition, was subjected to the ordeal of a public inquisition. His defence was a bare recital of fact. The dates specified upon the summons were within the period during which the girl was an inmate of University College Hospital for the purpose of surgical treatment. The truth of Mr. Keeble's statement was amply borne out by a medical certificate which he obtained the previous day, and produced to the magistrate. The document is before us, and we print it in full:—

> University College Hospital,
> Gower Street, London, W.C.
>
> Theresa Keeble has one month ago been operated upon in this hospital for appendicitis, and is not yet completely convalescent. She is also suffering from sub-acute rheumatism, and not yet fit to attend school.
>
> EDWARD BAEL, M.B., B.S.

Immediate acquittal should have followed the production of this certificate. The sequel is almost incredible.

Mr. Horace Smith remarked that the doctor's pronouncement "might mean anything." It might. Hospital surgeons are not apt to exaggerate the sufferings of their patients. The girl was still in a most critical state, but the magistrate ignored the medical testimony, spurned the father's defence, and fined him a sovereign, or, in the alternative, *fourteen days' imprisonment*. He would allow no time for the payment of the fine. Mr. Keeble is by no means a rich man. His sick child has been robbed of nourishment to pay a fine, the exaction of which is a disgrace to Mr. Horace Smith and a reproach to the law which he administers.

STATE SWEATING.

MORE PLAIN WORDS TO THE BOGUS BOARD.

We recently called attention to the lamentable laxity of the Treasury in the payment of overtime money to Labour Exchange Clerks. A well-informed correspondent assures us that the grievance is by no means confined to a single district, and that the treatment meted out to the clerks in certain Exchanges has been so intolerable that they have been driven to the length of threatening a strike. Protracted overtime has recently been general, many employees having been required to work from early morning to past midnight, with the shortest intervals for meals. These sweated workers have in some cases been informed that overtime payment is doubtful.

The heavy work involved by the administration of Unemployment Insurance is the excuse for the "nigger-driving" of the past few months, and it would appear that the authorities have been endeavouring to work this part of the Act with an insufficient staff. Moreover, the managers of the Exchanges appear to have been selected with a lamentable want of discrimination—numerous shameless Party "jobs" having, of course, been perpetrated—and, in many cases, the administrative capacity of the gentlemen appointed leaves much to be desired. The position is a most unsatisfactory one. The information in our possession affords evidence of a state of affairs which would disgrace any private employer, and which is nothing short of scandalous in the case of a Government department. The Board of Trade should at once make it clear that they intend honourably to meet their obligations in the matter of overtime payment. Failing this, Labour Exchange employment should be proscribed as a "sweated trade."

PULLING OUR LEG?

A PROMISE OF NEWS FROM OVER THE BORDER.

The following anonymous letter, neatly typed on pink foolscap paper, enclosed in an envelope addressed to the Editor, and bearing the Chiswick postmark, 8 p.m., August 14th, is decidedly interesting—that is if the author did actually carry out the threat, and is able to fulfil his promise:—

> SIR,—By the time this reaches you I shall have crossed the border, in fact in common language I shall have committed suicide. Doubtless a crowd of "intelligent" butchers and bakers will bring me in insane; well, let them, *but sane or insane I claim to be the first man that has left this earth of his own free will with a definite object in view. I mean to find out something about the future and let* YOU *know.* My life has been a sequence of failures and disappointments and though personally I should not have cared a damn if only I was affected, the constant worry broke my mother's heart and ruined my home. And yet no misfortune was attributable to a deliberate wrong-doing on my part. I have asked God time after time to postpone the torment until in the natural course of events my beloved parents had passed away, and then soak it into me double.
>
> If I can let you know anything, I shall convey the knowledge to you in a manner that you cannot mistake.

If messages *do* reach the spirit world, we should esteems it a favour if our correspondent could manage to get a few hours' leave in order to have an interview with our Special Commissioner. Communications delivered through a second party, or letters, typewritten or otherwise, will be ignored. Sorry, but we must see the person who has been there!

THE WANDERER'S RETURN.

BACK FROM TIMBUCTOO?

In our issue of August 2nd there appeared the following paragraph, under the heading of "Off to Timbuctoo?"

> We cull the following from the July issue of the *Monthly Church Magazine* of St. Peter's, Iver:
>
> The Rev. G. R. Wreford will not be returning to Iver—asking "Why?"

We now learn that the reverend gentleman *has* returned to Iver, so the Church Magazine has proved to be a false prophet. He is charged with a serious offence against two boys; and is on remand.

"Bullets" still booming. A New Feature—"Hat Trick" Prizes. See page 322.

THE RACKETTY RECTOR OF RICKINGHALL.

ASTONISHING REVELATIONS OF COUNTRY CLERIC'S DEPRAVITY.

A few days ago the following paragraph appeared in the papers :—

A Suffolk rector's sudden death whilst on a visit at a London flat formed the subject of a Coroner's inquiry at Westminster yesterday, the victim being the Rev. Cecil Frederick Blyth, 61, of Rickinghall Rectory, Diss.

A cousin identified the body. For some time past he had been suffering very much from his heart. He had been attended by a local doctor, and in February last he visited a Harley Street practitioner, who immediately sent him back to the rectory in Suffolk, where he remained in bed for two months.

A young woman, giving an address in Long Acre, said that on Thursday, in company with a friend, she lunched with the Rev. F. Blyth at the Trocadero Restaurant. The rector seemed well and made a good meal. After lunch she returned to Long Acre with him, and her friend was to return later. They went in a taxi-cab to Long Acre, where they walked up to the second floor of a block of flats, where her rooms were situated.

The rector did not seem affected by the climb, but about three o'clock she noticed he was breathing with difficulty. Almost immediately afterwards he lapsed into unconsciousness. She sent for a doctor, who arrived shortly afterwards, but Mr. Blyth was dead.

Dr. Ryan, who was summoned by the last witness, said a post-mortem examination showed that Mr. Blyth had an aneurism of the aorta, from which he had probably suffered for some years. This brought on hemorrhage, and caused death, which might have occurred at any moment.

A verdict of "Death from natural causes" was returned.

Now, to the uninitiated, there seems nothing very remarkable in the above report. It would seem that the rector simply went home with a lady acquaintance, possibly on an errand of spiritual welfare—notwithstanding the little lunch at the "Troc." But to the man about town, able to read between the lines, the case is simply one of hundreds that occur in London every day. The parson went to the restaurant with a couple of girls of easy virtue, one of whom he had been acquainted with for some months, lunched and wined well, then got into a taxi with the younger of the two, and accompanied her to a Long Acre flat.

We have interviewed the girl who was with him at the time of his death and also several other girls who knew him intimately—not under his own name, but as Sidney Field. And, by the way, why was not this assumed name mentioned at the inquest? And, further, why was nothing said about his being known as the "snow-ball man"—from the fact that he would never accompany the same girl home twice if he could help it? He would lunch or dine with Alice Glad-Eye, but would always ask her to bring with her "a nice little girl friend." Here is the actual letter making the fatal appointment—written by this clergyman to a girl 18 years of age :—

July 31st.

I look back with great pleasure to the very delightful time that we had together at the flat last Friday week. You were so very charming that the time seemed to fly. I laugh when I think of the stolen kisses in the taxi! I hope we shall often have such delicious times again.

It was awfully good of you to say that you would introduce me to your friend. I am looking forward very much to meeting her, and I am sure from what you told me about her that I should want to make love to her.

I think I can get up to town the week after next. Could you and she come and have lunch with me, and she spend the afternoon with me afterwards? Or it would be pleasanter still if you could both dine with me and she and I have the evening together. Thursday, the 14th, or Friday, the 15th, would suit me very well. If you cannot arrange that I might possibly manage next Thursday, but I should prefer the later week.

I am writing to—— to ask if we may use her room, and I am asking her to send this letter on to you. I shall not be near a telephone for a few days, but when possible I will ring you up. Will you see Gladys and find out what can be arranged?

Please write to me in the enclosed envelope before next Wednesday, when I shall probably call for it. Heaps of love and kisses.—Yours very affect.,

Sidney Field.

We could quote other letters of a similar nature, all of which go to show the shocking hypocrisy of this priest of over sixty.

In Excelsis.

And now let us turn to his Parish Magazine, for July :—

My dear Parishioners,—It is now four months since I was laid aside, and you may naturally wish to hear something from me respecting the present state of my health, and the prospect for the future. My illness has been a serious and a long one, but in consequence of the complete and prolonged rest which I was ordered to take, and the medical treatment, I am now very much better, and I expect to take part again in the Church services on July 27th and afterwards, when Mr. Bell will be away for his well-earned holiday. My doctor who has attended me for many years and knows my constitution thoroughly, tells me that he sees no reason why I should not return to my usual work and life, *but I shall always have to avoid any over exertion and any special fatigue, and not attempt to take part in so many services on a Sunday as I have generally been in the habit of doing.* I often hear some of you say "we don't get younger," and that is a fact which sooner or later we have to realise, some sooner and some later.

I am now away from home for change of scene, which I have found very beneficial, but it will be a matter of great pleasure and thankfulness when I can be amongst you again in a condition fit for work, if that may be.

Thanking you very heartily for all the kindness and sympathy which you have shown us throughout this trying time.—I remain, Yours very sincerely,

C. F. Blyth.

And here is another extract from the *Deancry Parish Magazine* :—

Much sympathy has been felt for the Sheppard family in the trouble which has come upon them. Few families are more respected in the parish. Of the terrible event I will not now speak, except to express a hope that it may act as a warning, to any who need it, to exercise more control over themselves—and their habits, and to beware of the danger and the sin and the misery of reckless self-indulgence and neglect of religion. The downhill road is easy, and what of the end?

Clerical Black Sheep.

We make no apology for this departure from the time-honoured maxim, *De mortuis nil nisi bonum.* It is right that the parishioners of Rickinghall should know the manner of man who posed as their spiritual guide. It is right that the public should realise the extent to which clerical depravity has attacked the Church. And it is right that the Church itself should realise that these constant disclosures are becoming nauseating, and that the time has arrived for a wholesale overhauling of its machinery.

We can only hope that the publicity we have given to this hushed-up scandal may hasten that event.

POSTAL SLOW COACHES.

FIFTEEN HOURS TO DELIVER AN EXPRESS LETTER.

Any of our readers who are disposed to regard Post Office methods as the last word in human organisation may be interested in the experience of a Leeds correspondent. He informs us that he handed in an urgent letter at the General Post Office, Leeds, at 6.40 p.m. on a recent evening, paying a special fee of fourpence for its express delivery to Harrogate, a distance of eighteen miles. The letter reached its destination at 9.30 a.m. the next morning, its transit having occupied nearly fifteen hours.

It happened that the delay involved our correspondent in serious inconvenience and loss, and he at once complained to the Leeds Postmaster. He was kept ten days without a reply to his letter—a way they have in Government departments. Determined not to be denied an explanation, he wrote again, and ultimately wrung a reply from the Postmaster—a fortnight after his original complaint was lodged.

This amiable officer had "caused careful enquiries to be made," and had discovered that the letter was despatched to Harrogate by a train leaving Leeds at 8.5 p.m. The train, however, was late in arriving at Harrogate, and the tardy missive was somehow or other kept about till 10.30 p.m. before finally delivered at the Harrogate Post Office. By this time all the boy messengers were presumably tucked away in their little beds, and it was therefore impossible to deliver the letter till the next morning, when it was taken out by a postman in the ordinary way—exactly as it would have been if it had borne a penny stamp, and been posted at Leeds in the ordinary way late on the previous night. With a bewitching *naïveté*, only attainable by State Officials, the Postmaster's letter concludes:—

> In the circumstances you will perhaps agree that no blame can be attached to the Post Office for the late delivery.

No blame, indeed! The letter was handed in at Leeds at twenty minutes to seven. Trains left Leeds for Harrogate at 7.10 and at 7.15, by either of which the letter might easily have been despatched. Instead, it was kept back till 8.5. This train was timed to make the journey in thirty-four minutes, and even if it was late on the evening in question it is scarcely conceivable that the delivery of the letter at Harrogate can thereby have been delayed till half-past ten. The "explanation" is altogether too "thin," and we heartily sympathise with our correspondent in his demand for redress. Unhappily for the public, however, Post Office officials have reduced the evasion of liability to an exact science. They probably do not "guarantee" express delivery even if you pay for it. You pay your money and take your chance. Some day the public will demand a "Business" service for a Business people.

MAGISTERIAL PERSECUTION.

KINDLY PEER ASSISTS OUR EFFORTS.

In a recent issue we commented upon the unhappy fate of Benjamin Russell, harshly sentenced by the Wrexham Magistrates to one month's imprisonment for his failure to contribute a shilling per week towards the maintenance of his son in an industrial school—the sentence being wrongly described in a circumstantial letter from a correspondent and in local newspaper reports as one of hard labour. Our paragraph attracted the attention of Viscount Harberton, who at once wired to the Magistrates' Clerk at Wrexham for information as to Russell's place of confinement, desiring, as he explains to us, to bail the prisoner out. It then transpired that Russell had been released two or three days after the publication of our comments. We trust the publicity we have given to the matter may serve to protect the unfortunate man from further persecution, and we shall carefully watch for any future developments. Meanwhile, we thank Viscount Harberton for his kindly interest, and cordially endorse his strictures upon the follies of certain Education Authorities.

THE "OPEN DOOR."

POSSIBLE EXPLANATION OF A RECENT DISASTER.

Our readers may recall a fatality which occurred a few weeks ago upon the North London Railway. In an overcrowded train leaving Broad Street Station, Alfred Walker, a City clerk, gave up his seat to a lady and took up a standing position against the door of the compartment, which appeared to be securely fastened. A few minutes later Walker fell out of the carriage and was run over and killed by another train. At the Coroner's inquest it was stated that no one actually witnessed the youth's fall. There was no evidence as to how the door came open, and a simple verdict of "accidental death" was returned.

A correspondent who regularly travels twice a day upon the North London line declares that he heard of the fatality without surprise. He assures us that on many occasions he has seen compartment doors fly open without any apparent cause, even when they have been shut by the Company's porters. He has formed the opinion that the door fastenings in use upon this line are of an ineffective pattern, and he has observed that they are most likely to loosen when the train is taking a curve, being apparently incapable of withstanding strain. On one of his journeys he found it impossible to keep the door of his compartment closed, and so impressed was he with the peril involved to standing passengers that he reported the matter to the guard of the train—apparently without result. A few days after Walker's fatal mishap, our correspondent was journeying from Hackney to Broad Street. Without the slightest warning the carriage door flew open, and in the subsequent conversation among the passengers—regular users of the line—there was unanimity in ascribing Walker's death to a similar occurrence.

Other readers may be able to confirm the allegations of our correspondent, though there appears to be no reason to doubt their accuracy. The circumstances which he relates call for immediate investigation. The morning and evening trains to and from Broad Street Station are almost invariably overcrowded, a circumstance calling for redoubled precautions on the part of the Railway Company. What have they to say?

GOOD BIZ!

THE CASE OF BALLS AND BOLTS, UNLIMITED.

The Old Ford and North Bow Horticultural Society recently held its show at the "Out and Out Mission," Tredegar Road. We are informed that the number and quality of the exhibits reflected credit upon the officials and the members.

The judging was done by Mr. E. Ball and Mr. J. Bolt. The Mayor of Poplar in the course of his address dwelt upon the brightening effect of the cultivation of flowers. We suggest that his Worship might have added a few words about the virtue of fair play.

The Prize List was as follows:—

Collection of dwarf grown plants: 1, Mr. J. Bolt; 2, Mr. E. Ball.

Four pots of gloxinias: 1, Mr. Bolt.

Three pots of gloxinias: 1 and 2, Mr. Bolt.

Four plants in flower (any variety): 1, Mr. J. Bolt; 2, Mrs. J. Bolt.

Four foliage plants: 1 and 2, Mr. J. Bolt; 3, Mrs. J. Bolt.

Specimen foliage plant: 1, Mr. E. Ball; 2, Mrs. J. Bolt; 3, Miss Stewart.

Foliage plant: 1, Mr. E. Ball; 2, Miss Bolt; 3, Mrs. J. Bolt.

One geranium: 1, Mrs. Bolt; 2, Master Bolt; 3, Mrs. R. J. Sambridge.

One fuchsia: 1, Miss C. Bolt; 2, Mrs. J. Bolt; 3, Mrs. Sambridge.

Three vases cut garden flowers: 1, Miss C. Bolt; 2, Miss Stewart; 3, Mrs. Bolt.

We understand that a military band was in attendance, but we have not been favoured with a programme of the musical items. We suggest that if the bandmaster omitted the inspired strain "Tommy make room for your Uncle" he should be immediately reprimanded.

£100 for a "Mauve" Coupon signed by a Lady. See Our Offer on page 315.

A PLEA AND A PROTEST.

FARRINGDON FORESTERS' TYRANNOUS TACTICS.

Mr. F. G. Smithers, resident till lately at Farringdon, Hants, is a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters, which is his Approved Society under the National Insurance Act, while he is also a subscriber to its voluntary section. Smithers is an industrious working gardener, of sound and reliable character. His former employer writes in the highest terms of his worth and respectability. He has, nevertheless, been treated with a scandalous want of consideration by the Society to which he is entitled to look for protection and succour.

In March last Smithers became seriously ill, and "declared on" the funds of the Society. He was entitled to a benefit of four shillings per week, in addition to the weekly ten shillings furnished by the State Insurance scheme. For two weeks these moneys were punctually paid, Smithers being attended by a panel doctor and regularly visited by an officer of his "Court." The doctor certified that the man was suffering from gastritis, following upon a severe attack of influenza. He happily survived the acute stage of his illness, and the doctor then recommended a change of air as the surest means to complete convalescence. For some reason or other, Smithers had not been supplied with a copy of the Rules of his "Court," although he had several times applied for them. Chary of acting without guidance, even under medical directions, he consulted the Sick Visitor—appointed by the "Court"—as to the propriety of his leaving home, by order of the surgeon, for the benefit of his health. He was then assured that all would be well, provided he signed a prescribed form, and furnished the Society with his holiday address. Having complied with these requirements, Smithers set off to Southsea—gratified, doubtless, to reflect that his own thrift had enabled him to follow the advice of his doctor.

Then came cruel disillusionment. His benefits ceased. His sole means of support were cut off at a stroke. He was advised that he had broken the Rules of the Society in two particulars. He had left home without leave of the "Court," and he had failed to furnish the Secretary with a medical certificate sanctioning his visit to the seaside. He must, therefore, forfeit the whole of those benefits to which he was clearly entitled in virtue of his fully paid-up contributions to the Society's funds. The omission of a doctor's "line" was speedily remedied, it being at once made clear that, but for medical advice, Smithers would never have left home. For fifteen weeks the unfortunate man continued to suffer the effects of his illness, but he received not a penny of benefit beyond the few shillings paid to him at the onset of his trouble. It was ultimately arranged that the matter should be fully reviewed by the "Arbitration Committee" of the Farringdon "Court."

In a written appeal to the Committee, Smithers stated his case with force and precision, emphasising the circumstances to which we have adverted, with stress upon the Sick Visitor's assurance that his excursion to Southsea was in order, and pursuant to rule. He cogently argued that he had been solely guided by the advice of the Visitor and by the directions of the doctor, both of whom were officers of the Society, and presumably cognisant of its Rules.

The Committee accepted his explanation to the length of finding that he had broken the Rules of the Society "unwittingly and without intention to defraud." In these circumstances an admonition, or perhaps a trifling fine, would manifestly have been a more than adequate penalty. By a heartless and tyrannical exercise of their authority, however, the "arbitrators" adjudged that the unhappy man should forfeit all his benefits and pay a fine of one guinea into the Society's funds. Smithers—a working gardener, who had lost his situation as a result of his illness—is mulcted in a monetary loss of more than ten pounds.

We appeal to the High Court of the Ancient Order of Foresters, and to the Insurance Commissioners in Smithers' behalf. Both bodies have a direct responsibility. An honest and industrious worker has been cruelly deprived of benefits purchased by his prudence and thrift. In the name of justice and fair play, we enter our emphatic protest.

A MOUTHY MEDICO.

PANEL DOCTOR'S GHASTLY BLUNDER.

Dr. Ormond, of Leatherhead, appears to have greater faith in "suggestive" methods of healing than is consonant with his position as a registered medical practitioner and "panel" doctor. Summoned to the bedside of Horace Norwood, a workman suffering from meningitis, the medico hastily diagnosed the trouble as "nerves," bidding the patient "pull himself together." The poor fellow was racked with pain and so exhausted that he could scarcely move; but the doctor appears to have assumed that he was shamming. "It is no use going on like this," he warned the stricken man. "You will only lose your work and be taken to a lunatic asylum." Feebly the patient inquired when he might expect some respite from his pain. "When you make up your mind to get well, Norwood—not before," was the cool response.

Soon after the doctor's first perfunctory examination the patient developed convulsions, the fits following each other with alarming frequency. Dr. Ormond was again called in and apprised of this new symptom. He appears either to have disbelieved the reports or else attached no importance to them. He again declared that there was nothing whatever the matter with the sufferer, that "an effort of will" would enable him to resume his normal activities. "Let him shout," he ordered, on hearing a description of the convulsive fits. "Let him shout for two hours. It will do him good, and no doubt he will get up and dress himself and come downstairs." A sousing with cold water was amiably suggested as a sound and speedy cure for convulsive and delirious attacks. The relatives were warned that on no account should they evince sympathy with the sufferer, lest his condition should thereby be aggravated.

The patient's condition at last became so desperate that the doctor was summoned one morning in the early hours. He refused to come, declaring that it was wholly unnecessary. Hours later he called, and administered pills, with further breezy assurances that there was "absolutely no danger" and "nothing really wrong."

An hour later the patient was dead.

At the inquest Dr. Ormond pleaded guilty to having made a ghastly blunder, and the jury thought fit to express appreciation of his frank admission of error. In view of the evidence, including the results of an autopsy by two independent surgeons, it is difficult to see what else he could have done. The blunder in itself was deplorable, and it was aggravated by studied insolence and by an utter contempt for the feelings of the deceased and his friends. Even if the man had been suffering from nervous trouble there would have been no excuse for the hectoring tactics of the doctor. To say nothing of his skill in diagnosis, Dr. Ormond appears to be unfitted by temperament and disposition for the medical care of the poor.

A POSTMAN'S YARN.

It wos nearin' the end of September,
That's if I can remember aright,
And I might as well say
That I'd 'ad a long day,
When I got wot you might call a fright.

While deliverin' letters as usual,
There wos one for my dear old pal Jack,
And I thought, Love a duck!
I believe 'e's 'ad luck,
When I saw "J. B." stamped on the back.

Well, I stayed while 'e opened and read it,
Then 'is eyes 'arf jumped out of 'is 'ead,
And 'e drew in 'is breath
And 'e went white as death
And, Lor' love us! I thought 'e was dead.

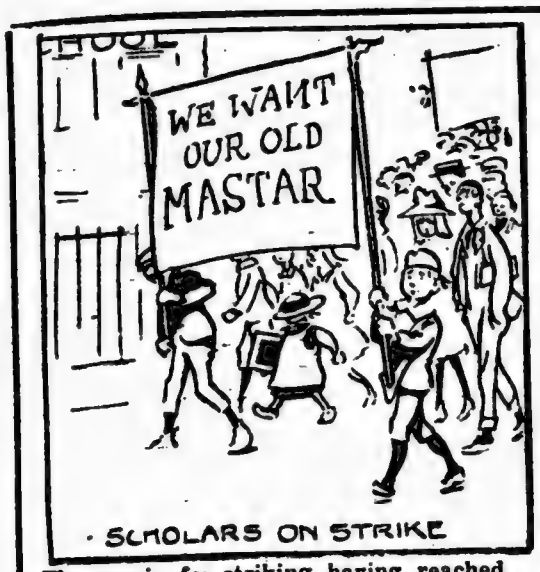
But 'e found 'imself all of a sudden—
And this 'ere wot I'm tellin' ain't lies—
When I says, "Are yer faint?"
'E shouts out, "No, I ain't;
Look, I've won 'J. B.'s' Football First Prize!"

C. F. S.

Turn to page 293 for the Result of Our Fifth Cricket Contest.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

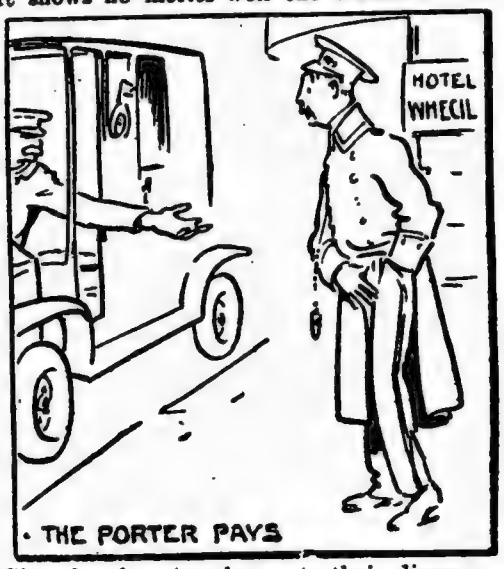
BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



The mania for striking having reached
The schoolboy, tho' but lately breeched,
Although his childish escapade prove vain
It shows he merits well the brand of cane.

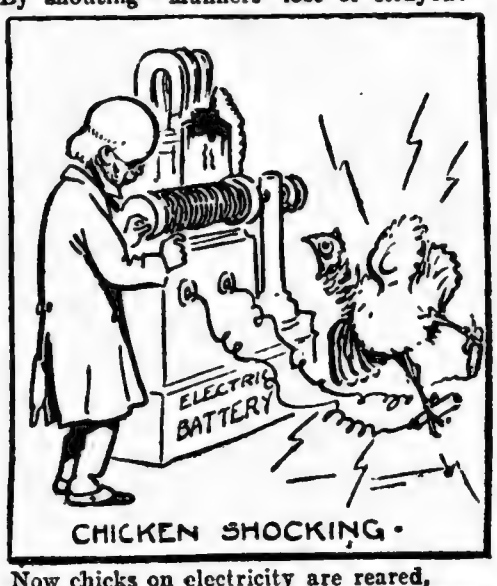
Four-footed tipsters enter now the field,
And tips astonishing are said to yield;
So, all who would their luck at racing try,
A piebald, Iceland pony haste to buy.

When you to Deal for holidays resort,
Be sure correctly you yourself comport,
Lest the town crier rudeness should upbraid
By shouting "Manners—lost or strayed!"



Since hotel porters learn, to their dismay,
That if they call a cab, they have to pay,
Perhaps in future they'll not be so fast
In blowing their shrill piercing blast.

Actors no longer flappers' heroes are—
They coldly view the histrionic star,
And, with fountain pens and cameras, stare
Enraptured at the man who rides the air.



Now chicks on electricity are reared,
We learn results astounding have appeared;
Is that the reason why some tough old cock
Sometimes gives our shudd'ring teeth a shock?

THE "WATER BABIES" AGAIN.

HOW PUBLIC MONEY IS THROWN AWAY.

Correspondence which we continue to receive may throw some light upon the recurring deficits in the finances of the Metropolitan Water Board. A Cricklewood reader owned a house at Harlesden, and in January last the assessment of the property was reduced by the Willesden Council. The ordinary rates were at once adjusted, and when the next instalment of Water Charge fell due our correspondent informed the Board of the reduced assessment and deducted sixpence from the amount of their demand—this being the correct alteration in the figure. The Board, however, determined to put up a fight for the nimble sixpence. In acknowledging our correspondent's remittance, they sent a receipt ominously marked "on account." The good old circumlocution gear was then set in motion. The Supervisor wrote demanding payment on the old assessment. His demand was followed by three or four letters from Collectors—the sixpence, by now, having gone in postage. At last the Board's solicitor took a hand, intimating in severe terms that unless the sixpence were paid to the Board within three days legal proceedings would be instituted "for the recovery thereof." A few days later legal proceedings were actually commenced by the issue of a County Court summons. Tired of the sorry farce and having no more time to waste, our correspondent paid the "tanner" into Court. His experience affords an interesting illustration of the way in which the Board's costs of collection are swollen.

A City correspondent furnishes us with an equally amusing and even more ridiculous instance of the puerility of the Board's "business" methods. He is the managing director of a firm of ship-brokers and wharfingers, who were formerly customers of the Board. In December, 1912, the Board's Revenue Officer applied to the firm for payment of £75. The director replied that they did not owe a penny. He knew there were no arrears, and was determined not to be bounced into payment. Six months later the Supervisor proposed that a sub-committee from the Board should pay a visit of inspection to the firm's premises. The director then asked by what right they proposed to adopt this course, and was informed that the Waterworks Act of 1849 empowered the Board to institute such an inspection. Apparently the officials of Savoy Court are as weak in law as in finance, for on referring to the Act in question the director discovered that it conferred no such powers upon Water Corporations. He consequently refused facilities for the inspection.

The Clerk to the Board then "got on his hind legs" and "regretted" that the Board "would have no alternative but to enormously increase its charges." Once again they had blundered. The firm had access to an alternative source of water supply—a fact which the Clerk appears to have overlooked. The director at once cut off the Board's supply, since when not a pint of their water has been consumed.

It is surely a scandal that a body battening upon public rates, and over-run with a horde of highly-paid officials, should be permitted to transact its business in so puerile a fashion. Oh, for a Business Board!

Had your "John Bull" Pen yet? One is waiting for You. Coupon on p. iii. of Cover.

"MISTAH JOHNSON."

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

We are by no means enamoured of Jack Johnson. We think he is a man the world could very well do without. True, he is a splendid animal physically, and a fine fighting machine. But when one has said that, one has said all. He is vain and sensual, like most niggers—qualities which appear to have a peculiar fascination for a certain decadent type of white women, and which consequently make him in a sense a menace to civilisation, for the intermixture of black and white necessarily spells the disintegration of the social structure.

Holding this opinion of him, our readers may expect us to join in the loud chorus of disapproval that has greeted the announcement of his appearance on a London music-hall stage. Well, they will be disappointed. If we were opposed to the public appearance of Johnson we should logically be bound to protest also against the appearance of other niggers behind the footlights. For, so far as we are aware, he is, in point of morals, no worse than the rest, and probably rather better than some of his colleagues.

Canting Critics.

Consequently, the grounds of objection to his appearance that are put forward by a variety of persons, interested and disinterested, are not endorsed by us. They are based upon cant, humbug and hypocrisy.

"Prominent music-hall artists," to use the words of the *Daily News*, have added their protests to those of that journal. It is not, they assure us, a colour question. It is simply that there is a strong feeling that, in the particular circumstances of the Johnson case, he should not appear before the public. At the same time, it is admitted that he has committed no offence that would be punishable under English law. Then if it is not a question of colour, and he has committed no crime according to English justice, what on earth is he to be banned for?

Even the Rev. Everard Digby, Vicar of St. Agatha, who, although he was not opposed to the Wells-Johnson boxing contest at Olympia, has slightly lost his head over this matter. "If what we have heard from America is true," he has said, "the man ought not to be allowed to make a public appearance in any place in England. The public conscience ought to make any performance impossible." Well, *is* it true what we hear from America? We know something about America and its playful way with its negro citizens. And suppose it *is* true, no crime, remember, has been committed that would be punished under English law. Then what is all the pother about?

Then the Rev. W. Thomas, Secretary of the Metropolitan Free Church Federation, must put his spoke in, declaring that the Federation would follow up Dr. Clifford's protest. "I think personally," he is reported to have said, "that it is both discreditable and disgraceful that the music-hall should entertain for one moment upon its stage a man of the character of Jack Johnson. I feel convinced that the moral and Christian sentiment of London will unite in expressing its condemnation of the action of the managers of the music-halls concerned."

"Moral" Music-Hall Frequenters.

As we have said, we are not enamoured of the black pugilist, but we should like to know what there is so atrocious in the character of Jack Johnson that makes him unfit to appear on the stage where many a fouler personality has won the applause of enthusiastic audiences. And what precisely is "the moral and Christian sentiment of London"? Is it represented by habitual music-hall frequenters, or busybody parsons who are glad to emerge into momentary notice by airing their narrow views to a *Daily News* reporter?

All this cant is sickening. If managers like to engage Johnson to appear, let them. If the public like to pay money to see him on the stage, let them. What does it matter? Where does the "moral and Christian sentiment of London" come in, whilst we can point to such public favourites as—well, what *does* it matter?

If we troubled enough about Johnson to object to his appearing on the music-hall stage, we would give our reasons honestly, and say, "Because he is black, and we don't like blacks, and object to be called his brother."

PUBLIC JUSTICE.

A WARNING TO OUR JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES.

In a recent case heard before the Marlborough Street Stipendiary, Mr. Mead, under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1912 (commonly known as the White Slave Act), the magistrate caused the public to be excluded, and informed the press that he "only permitted them to be present as a privilege." We cannot permit such procedure to pass unchallenged. The members of the press had the *right* to be present, as representatives of the public, and we beg respectfully to inform Mr. Mead and all other magistrates that there is no power to exclude them.

In a recent case in the House of Lords, Lord Shaw, in the course of his judgment, said:—"After a not inconsiderable study of the authorities and history in relation to this subject, I will venture to enter, notwithstanding the dicta to which I am about to refer, my respectful protest against the assumption of any general power by the present English Courts of Law *to hold any Courts of Justice with closed doors.*" And later in his judgment Lord Shaw declared that the exclusion of the public from the Courts appeared to him "*to constitute a violation of that publicity in the administration of justice which is one of the surest guarantees of our liberties, and an attack upon the very foundations of public and private security.*" His Lordship further stated that there had been "a progressive departure from the law," which was "an illustration of the liability, unless the most vigorous vigilance is practised, to have constitutional rights and even the imperative will of Parliament whittled away by the practice of the judiciary." And he added that if the right to exclude the public were conceded to the judges, it would constitute "an easy way *to remove their proceedings from the light, and to silence for ever the voice of the critic.* Such an impairment of right would be intolerable in a free country, and I do not think it has any warrant in our law."

We are, of course, aware that by Section 114 of the Children Act there is provision for the exclusion of the general public in the trial of offences contrary to decency or morality, but this exclusion is to be only during the giving of evidence of a child or young person, and it is expressly enacted that "nothing in this section shall authorise the exclusion of *bona-fide* representatives of a newspaper or news agency."

We hope, after this explanation, that the representatives of the press will make it clear that they are present in Court as a right and not as a concession, and in the words of Lord Shaw will see that "the most vigorous vigilance is practised," and take care that their constitutional rights "are not whittled away by the practice of the judiciary."

THE SAME OLD GAME.

MOCK AUCTIONEERS' MOULDY METHODS.

From time to time we have had a considerable deal to say about sham auctions. A correspondent reminds us, however, that the evil is in no sense a new one. Under date February 11th, 1852, he finds this letter in the *Manchester Guardian*: "Sir,—Permit me through the medium of your paper to call the attention of the authorities to a system of roguery and imposition carried on in a shop of this town. A gang of swindlers, probably identical with those who were lately expelled from Liverpool, are offering watches for sale by auction. The article is put up by one of the party and bid up to a certain point, much beyond its value, by the others. A long pause is then made, and meanwhile the watch, which is a mere toy, and scarcely worth a few shillings, is represented as one of first-rate excellence. Should any stranger ignorant of the fraud bid for it, it is knocked down to him immediately." Apparently, they had a shorter way with the swindling watch and jewellery auctioneer in Liverpool then than they have now, for there, as in other cities, he is in A.D. 1913 one of its recognised institutions. Just now the popular seaside resorts are swarming with such sharks, and we suggest that sporting visitors could enjoyably spend their time baiting—with a lump of pork, for preference—these voracious cannibals.

£1,500 and Free Football Season Tickets. Final Coupon this week.

LUCKY LANDLUBBERS.

PLEASURE PASSENGERS REALISE THE TRUTH OF OUR SLOGAN.

A few days ago the public were on the verge of receiving another *Titanic* shock. On Saturday and Sunday of last week thousands of men, women and children were returning by boat from their holidays. The *Ben Ma Chree*, crowded with about 2,550 passengers from the Isle of Man, in a fog collided with a tender outside the Mersey Bar, miles away from any help. For this enormous number of persons the Manx vessel had but twelve life-boats, capable of carrying at the utmost 560 persons. Naturally, there was a panic, many of those on board doubtless believing that our solemn warnings were about to be justified—but luckily the vessel was not badly injured.

In the same fog there was another collision, this time outside Liverpool Bar, an Isle of Man steamer (the *Peel Castle*) again being concerned. She was similarly packed, carrying 1,225 persons. Both these collisions occurred in deep water, clear of land and help, and it was purely by luck that the two vessels were not sunk—in which case the fatality would have been colossal.

Then a third accident happened—to the *London Belle*, full of holiday-makers returning from Clacton. With life-boats to hold about 50, she is certified to carry 1,200 persons! A mishap occurred to the paddle-wheels, and any practical man knows the risk there is, if the floats or arms of these enormous wheels get adrift, of the boat being holed—the hull plates of the steamers being as thin as sheet iron.

Three accidents at one week-end—dire consequences averted by sheer luck—and all such as we predicted would be likely to happen; the lives of about 4,000 persons involved, the total life-boat capacity being not more than 800! Over 3,000 persons have had fortunate escapes.

When will the landlubberly Board of Trade realise that, despite their evident belief in their luck, they will one day meet with a grievous and horrifying disillusionment?

THE "JOHN BULL" SWEEPSTAKE.

CANADIAN POSTAL AUTHORITIES TAKEN TO BOOK.

The *Calgary Eye Opener*—one of the smartest papers in the Dominion—trounces the Canadian postal authorities for their attitude towards Canadian readers who desired to participate in the late "JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake"—a "sporting proposition" which it rightly classes with "the famous Calcutta Sweep or the Melbourne ditto."

"The Canadian postal authorities," it continues, "have always been notoriously inconsistent. Here we find them extending their mighty right arm in protection of the poor Canadian sport, who of his own volition is prepared to lose five dollars in a cheap lottery away off in Switzerland; while they permit to go freely through the mails to England the most fraudulent class of literature, the sole object of which is to defraud English investors out of sums reaching into thousands and hundreds of thousands of dollars with respect to worthless sub-divisional property and fake industrial promotions—to assist Western real estate sharks in their nefarious occupation of robbing the English public. Sending a postal order for five dollars to Switzerland to buy a ticket in the JOHN BULL Derby Sweep is 'fraudulent use of the mails.' How does the P.O. Department at Ottawa explain the use made of the mails by the thousands of individuals out in this neck of the woods who purchase tickets in Salmon's Sweepstakes and Morris' ditto at Victoria, B.C.? These two firms have been running sweeps on all the classic English events for years. We ourselves have sent them money over and over again through the mails. There is only one explanation of this inconsistency. The money is kept in the country. It doesn't go to Switzerland."

If this is the only explanation, it is all there is to be said, except that, besides being anxious to keep the money in, the authorities have probably not forgotten that JOHN BULL is doing its level best to keep English emigrants out.

If the postal authorities of Canada attempt to repeat their tricks with the JOHN BULL Football Cup Sweep now being organised by Messrs. Smallman and Terry at Geneva, they will probably get into trouble.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLXI.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

SAD CASE OF A CRIPPLE AND HER MOTHER.

A lady, well known in the West End of London, trying to get together a small fund for a deserving case, wrote to twenty-two members of a leading Suffragette Society, a body she believed to be composed of sympathisers with their sex, but she did not receive even so much as an acknowledgment. These are the circumstances:—

In a slum live a poor woman and her daughter, the latter crippled for many years and requiring a surgical instrument owing to curvature of the spine. The father is in an insane asylum; the mother for years after her husband was parted from her lived on a small income, but was unfortunately ultimately robbed of it by a defaulting solicitor. Since her loss, she has maintained herself and her child by teaching singing. Lately, however, she has not been able to do anything owing to ill-health. The devoted pair have had to sell almost all their furniture in order to live, and now this pitiful resource has nearly come to an end. The needs of the poor people are, first, to obtain the surgical instrument required for the alleviation of the daughter's disease, towards which we have already contributed half a dozen tickets of the Surgical Aid Society; and, secondly, to furnish three rooms in some respectable neighbourhood, in order that the mother may start afresh to teach singing. We need hardly add that it is a most deserving case. If the mother's name was published, it would be found to be that of one well known in concert circles.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCLVII.—C. C. P., 2s.

CCLIX.—A. W. M., 2s. 6d.; M. C. C., 7s. 6d.; S. W. B., 1s.; A. M., 6d.; Mrs. H. B., 2s.; D. B. G., 2s. 6d.; W. H., 6d.; "Yiddell," 2s. 6d.; R. A. J., 2s. 6d.

CCLX.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; S. S., 10s.; "Elstow," 1s.; "Ma," 6d.; "Gent," 2s. 6d.; "Dribnair," 1s.

Mr. Arthur Maycock, the winner of the £500 prize in our 44th "Bullets" Competition, has generously forwarded £5, which we have allocated as follows:—CCXXIV., £1; CCXX., £1; CCLIX., 30s.; and CCLX., 30s.

Mrs. Leonard, the winner of the 43rd Competition, has also sent £5, of which we have distributed 50s. to CCXXIX., and 50s. to CCXL.

Mrs. Parsons, the winner of £125 in our Fourth Cricket Competition—namely, £75, the second prize, and £50, the award offered for the most correct coupon cut from *Mary Bull*—has kindly sent us £2, which we have much pleasure in dividing between Nos. CCLIX. and CCLX.

We have this week apportioned £10 from the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXX., 30s.; CCXXVIII., 30s.; CCLX., £5; and £2 to the poor man whose case we referred to under the heading of "Bad Gas."

COLLECTING BOXES.

LONDON.—Mr. J. Bull, "Devonshire Arms," Avonmouth Street, Newington Causeway, 1s. 3½d.; Mrs. Egan, "Black Lion," 272, High Road, Kilburn, 1s. 3d.; Mr. F. Huggins, "Brunswick Arms," Stamford Street, 2s. 1d.; Mr. E. Underwood, "Bromley Arms," Fairfield Road, Bow, 1s.; Mrs. Lyon, 40, Old Kent Road, 1s. 2d.; Mr. J. Chesterton, "Faunce Arms," Faunce Street, Kennington Park, 2s. 9d.; Mr. E. H. Westley, "The Castle," Old Kent Road, 1s.; Mr. Gilbert, "Crown," High Street, Kensington, 2s. 6d.; Mr. A. Standbrook, "Old Clay Hall," Old Ford Road, 1s. 1d.

Total 14s. 1½d., which we have allocated to CCLX.

"E. W." (Gateshead), in accordance with his offer, has now sent us a postal order for 20s. for the benefit of young Parke, the librarian at St. Bride's Foundation Institute, who had to support himself on a salary of 10s. a week, and under this pressure yielded to temptation and was sentenced to a month's imprisonment for stealing three books. We have had great pleasure in forwarding this amount to Parke, and should be pleased to receive any further donations, or offers of employment. In justice to the authorities at the Institute, we think it right to add that Parke tells us that they did not know that he was entirely dependent upon his small salary.

Result of Our Fifth Cricket Contest. See page 293 for Winners.

A BATHING COSTUME CENSOR?

By Geoffrey Thornton.

Having spent a fortnight by the briny, I have come to the conclusion that there ought to be a sort of Censor on every seaside beach. I mean a Bathing Costume Censor, a sort of a kind of a—well, I hardly know whether the censor should be a man or a woman. But, as there are Press censors and theatrical censors of the male persuasion, I will suggest that there should be a male censor, whose duty it should be to see all bathers, male and female, before they leave their little wooden huts or bathing machines, or peckaboo tents, or whatever you like to call them, and "pass" their bathing attire.

Yes, I admit there would be a rush for the jobs. I should be after one of them myself—Margate, I think.

But I have been shocked during the past two weeks. And I can be a naughty boy myself when it comes to the point. Yes, I have been almost horrified at the fearful thights I have theen. No, seriously, it cannot go on. The figures haunt me as I write (I had a good look at them, too!). The costumes are too scanty altogether. Some are too short, some cut too low in front (Oh, run away you boys), and some—well, they seem to leave off a couple of seconds after they commence. I say it, cannot go on. I went away for my health—to a bracing place—but these sort of apparitions—well, they did not do me any good. I found the place relaxing instead of bracing.

Now, the Censor's job, as I have said, should be to visit the bathing tents, etc., before the bathers are ready to plunge. A little flag might be hoisted over each one as the bathers were prepared for inspection. This would obviate the necessity of looking through the keyhole! Of course, this idea might lend itself to practical jokers, and I fear I can easily imagine a few of the knutty knuts prematurely hoisting the flags over ladies' machines.

It is a good idea though, I think you will agree, and the Censor would know when to approach the tent. To be on the safe side (and I am sure we should all wish to avoid a sudden shock), the Censor should knock three times and await an answer as to whether or not the coast is clear, so to speak. Then he should enter and test the propriety of the costume donned. It would be up to him to make suggestions if there was anything a little "toodly-oodly," or "catch-as-catch-can" about the garment.

I am of opinion that a stray suggestion, such as "Well, it nearly passes, but, if I were you, I should put another tuck in there," or something to that effect, would serve to stay a great deal of trouble and possibly avoid a tear in the bathing suit and a good many tears in a divorce suit.

STUPID SEVERITY.

SCARBOROUGH SHALLOWS' STIFF SENTENCE.

When a man is found guilty of serious crime it is perhaps reasonable that his sentence should bear some relation to the number and character of his previous convictions, though it should be remembered that each prior offence has been expiated in turn. In the case of statutory offences of a non-criminal character, there is, however, no possible relevance in such considerations. Under the name of James Barr, a man was recently convicted at Scarborough of peddling without a licence. A detective-sergeant informed the Bench that Barr was not the prisoner's real name, and that there were several police-court convictions against him in the name of Dunwell. The Magistrates then passed sentence of three weeks' hard labour, instead of seven days' which is usual in such cases. Such severity was both stupid and unfair. The unfortunate man may well have been struggling to earn an honest living. The action of the Scarborough Bench is admirably calculated to start him anew upon a career of crime. Nor can we commend Mr. Fordham, the West London Stipendiary, who a few days ago sentenced three homeless women to 14 days' imprisonment, with hard labour, for sleeping out—mainly, apparently, on the score that it was "indecent" that they should be lying about the streets at night. It is certainly unfair that they should be punished for an offence with which they were not charged.

SHIELDING A SCOUNDREL.

MILITARY AUTHORITIES BAULK CIVIL POLICE.

Here is a case which calls for the immediate attention of the Secretary of State for War.

Mr. John Bond is a gardener, living with his wife and seven children at 13, Sunnyside Terrace, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey. As it is no easy task for one to feed and clothe a family of nine, his wife does a little work in order to help, and quite recently she has been employed by the catering department of the Bisley camp, which is situated about a mile from her cottage. On the evening of July 19th, after finishing her work, she proceeded to walk home—the time being about 7.30. She had not gone far when she met a female acquaintance who was out for a stroll with her sweetheart, and with these she stopped in conversation for nearly an hour. Continuing on her way home, she had arrived within about four hundred yards of her cottage when a soldier, who had been in hiding in the hedge, sprang out, caught hold of her, threw her on the ground, and made an attempt to commit a criminal assault. Mrs. Bond screamed and struggled with her assailant. Her cries reached the couple with whom she had previously been in conversation, and they were soon on the scene. Upon their approach the beast slank back into the hedge, but in doing so he left on the footpath his regimental cap. Her rescuers suggested that she should go and fetch her husband, which she did; and in the course of a short time they all returned to the scene of the assault, only to find that the culprit had escaped. The cap, however, was in safe keeping, and bore the regimental crest of the 7th Royal Fusiliers. This the husband handed to a constable, together with a written statement of the facts. On the following day—Sunday—Mr. and Mrs. Bond accompanied the police to the camp, interviewed the military authorities and stated their case. The men of the regiment were paraded, and the woman was asked to identify her assailant. This she failed to do, whereupon the civil police were calmly told that nothing could be done in the matter. Now, we strongly protest at this needless deadlock. The parading of the soldiers might properly have ended the matter had there been no cap in question. We suggest to the Commanding Officer of the 7th Fusiliers that it is his duty to make every effort to trace the owner of the cap. If he pleads inability to move we shall be pleased to assist him. Moreover, if the gallant Colonel only cares to make enquiries, he will find that a certain man of his regiment was noticed entering camp without a cap. The 7th Royal Fusiliers contains at least one low, dirty blackguard, and he must be handed over to the police at once. The "honour of the regiment" must not be preserved by allowing such a creature to go scot free. Should the regimental authorities prefer that course, surely the civil head of the Army should step in to vindicate the law.

A WORKHOUSE RESURRECTION.

ANOTHER "UNCONSCIONABLE LONG TIME."

Wondering whether there has been a resurrection in Guildford Workhouse, a man who lives at Harsell Moor, Woking, wants to know what is the proper etiquette in the circumstances. Two years ago his uncle, one James Burchett, "the last of the family," died in the "House," and was duly buried; anyhow, he and a friend went to see Burchett when he was ill, subsequently received a notice to say his uncle was dead, saw him in the mortuary, and made arrangements with the Workhouse Master for the obsequies. The other day—August 16th, 1913, to be precise—he received a "Memorandum from the Master," as thus: "I beg to inform you that James Burchett is very ill in the infirmary of this Union. You will be permitted to visit on presenting this notice at the gate. C. H. Bessant, Master." The puzzle is how, being dead in the mortuary and buried in the cemetery two years ago, Burchett has now got back to the infirmary. On present showing, it looks as though the Master were trying to lure our astounded inquirer up to Guildford for a spiritualistic séance. Before departing, we suggest he should telephone for more detailed particulars.

How to do the "Hat Trick." See page 322.

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TEACHER: "What is grass?"
TRIUMPHANT ONE: "Whiskers on the earth."

HOW I COMMENCED.

LIFE STORIES OF EMINENT MEN AND WOMEN.

By "Retlaw."

MR. ALEXANDER URE.

Now, I really am going to tell the truth in this short sketch of my career. You may not believe it. I don't care a bawbee whether you do or whether you don't. Give a dog a bad name, says the old adage, and you may as well hang him. There is, however, plenty of bark, and a bite or two, in me yet, although I am sixty.

I was born in 1853, at Glasgow, of which noble city my father was an ex-Lord Provost. And there I received my early education, taking my M.A. degree, and finished at Edinburgh University.

Being brought up in a more or less legal atmosphere, I naturally turned to the Bar as a profession. Legal quibbles delighted me. The *suppressio veri* and the *suggestio falsi* held a peculiar fascination for me. Verbal distortion for the purpose of concealing facts and propagating erroneous impressions became a positive obsession. It was obvious, therefore, that I was specially cut out for a legal career, and in 1878 was duly called.

For a while I was content to remain in the comparative obscurity of the Scottish Courts and Glasgow University, where for ten years I was lecturer on Constitutional Law and History. But such capabilities as mine were meant for wider uses. I had long since discovered that through Party politics lay the road to fame and affluence. So, with my brain made preternaturally keen as a result of studying the niceties of Scottish Law, I stepped confidently into the political arena, and contested West Perthshire. Strange to say, I did not win. But, nothing daunted, I fought Linlithgow the very next year. This was in 1893. Again, by some extraordinary chance, I failed to win the seat. And even, two years after, when I *did* succeed, and got my grip on the Linlithgow electors, which they will have a job to throw off, it was some time before I made anything like an impression on the general public.

Lloyd George gave me my chance, however. It was the Old Age Pensions business that brought me to the front. You may remember my going up and down the country telling the simple electors that if they returned the Tories to power there would be no more Old Age Pensions forthcoming. Of course, I omitted to point out that the Pensions would not be forthcoming if the money required for them was to be raised only by means of "Tariff Reform." So the impression got abroad that if the Tories turned us out they would repeal the Old Age Pensions Act. Naturally, I did not attempt to arrest the rumour, by which my Party were profiting in so many constituencies. But I had a rough journey of it, I can tell you. Meeting after meeting at which I rose to speak was broken up in disorder, and "Ure-a-liar-ty" became almost a household song amongst the baser Tory element.

But what I wanted was for someone to get up in the House of Commons and charge me with spreading false statements. In due course this was done, and I seized the opportunity to deliver an impassioned and indignant oration in the House, in the course of which I managed to work a few tears out of my eyes, and a pathetic tremor or two into my voice. Of course, I did not go very deeply into the charges that had been brought against me, but depended for my effect upon well worked-up sentiment. The result was all that I had desired. I was beautifully whitewashed by my colleagues, and even my political opponents as good as said that their accusations against me were meant only in a Pickwickian sense. That was good enough for me. I had arrived. I was the most prominent figure of the moment. And now I would like to work a similar scheme on the Land question.

THE CALL OF THE PARTY WHIP.

In a recent pamphlet, entitled "Free Trade Means Disinterested Government," the following lines, "with apologies to the late Sir W. S. Gilbert," appear:—

I always voted at my Party's call,
And I never thought of thinking for myself at all.
I thought so little they rewarded me,
And now I've a handle to my name, d'ye see.

Your Last Chance to Win—Free Football Season Tickets and £1,500. See page 315.

How I became my Own Master

The following chapter in autobiography was written by a well-known man of business, whose career will be recognised by many readers. It illustrates the way in which a young man without capital or influence can rise to prosperity without being in any way exceptional, without possessing any qualities which could be described by the word genius.

A Young Man's Rise in Life.

To make money for oneself instead of for other people you must be your own master.

You can begin at once if you have capital to risk. You can take a salary and be "pushed" if you have influence. But neither capital nor influence is so good a foundation as industry and knowledge. The young man with money may use it to start for himself and lose the lot through want of experience. The young man with friends behind him is very liable to allow himself to depend more on influence than on industry. His rich friends teach him to spend money and time on amusement instead of on self-improvement.

When I was a boy I had no money, no friends, only a very limited education, and not much industry. The habit of *trying*, and of giving up some of my leisure to the furtherance of my own ambitions, did not come at first. Emulation was what stirred me. I tell the story of a plain man's career.

I am quite sure that there is nothing exceptional or unusual about me. Most of the men whom I overstepped or superseded were much cleverer than I was, and some of them had "influence." But these men are still earning salaries, in certain cases large salaries; while I have left off drawing a salary. I work for myself.

Not So Difficult Nowadays.

A young man of the present day has better chances than I had. He has books which did not exist in my young days. I had to rummage the facts out for myself in actual experience, or get them from a variety of books, which cost me dear and, because of my ignorance, were not the best books for the purpose. *You* could do everything that I did and do it with much less trouble.

At the start I was an office-boy. I earned 15s. a week. I copied letters and took them to the post. I indexed the letter-book. The wages of the man above me, who took rapid long-hand notes from the chief and wrote out the letters in a beautiful hand, seemed big to me. He earned 25s. a week! The book-keeper, above him, earned £6; it seemed to me unattainable wealth.

I was discontented. I was ambitious. I bought books and taught myself shorthand. The correspondence clerk was promoted to be traveller at £2 a week. I asked for his job and was given a trial. When the chief saw me writing shorthand he was amazed. He had not been used to office-boys who tried to improve themselves. He doubled my pay. I felt rich.

The German Book-keeper.

My next step was book-keeping. No one in the office except the old book-keeper—a German—knew anything about books, and the old man took care that no one should know anything of *his* books. But I bought a manual of book-keeping and studied it.

One day there was a row. The German book-keeper had come in drunk, and had not taken reproof with docility. He threatened to go home to Germany, and said that the House could not get on without him.

The governor lost his temper and told the book-keeper to go farther away than Germany. But next day he was sorry and uneasy. When he had finished dictating letters he said to me:—

"I am afraid I have got into a bad place. You heard the row yesterday. I don't know how we are going to keep the books without Mr. Hofman. There's no one who could take on the books."

I said: "Yes, there is; I can."

"What?" said the governor. "Do you mean that you understand book-keeping?"

I said—not without uneasiness—that I did. The result was that I got the book-keeper's job and £3 a week. It wasn't easy to straighten things out, because the German had purposely confused matters as much as he could. But with the aid of my text-book I puzzled it out.

Later—the business having grown in the meantime—an important new department was created. I was relieved of the books, and I was placed in charge of the new work. In a year's time I was given an interest in the profits. I had passed out of the wage-earning class, and eventually went into business for myself.

Observe that there had been nothing behind me except knowledge. I had no money to invest and no friends to push me. Every step in my progress was based on something that I knew which other people did not know. Any other man in my place, with the same knowledge, would have succeeded equally well.

How I Won.

Now is there not a lesson in this? When I was young I had to ferret out all my facts as best I could, but now there is one book that will give you all the knowledge it took me years to struggle to pick up. That book is the "Business Encyclopædia." The Business Encyclopædia is a book full of exactly the sort of knowledge which made my business fortune—raised me from office-boy to manager—set me on my feet as my own master. The price of a little study and a very little money—for the "Business Encyclopædia" can be obtained for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid by small monthly payments—does not seem much to pay for being lifted out of the clerk-class into the manager-class, out of the manager-class into the partner-class, out of the dependent class into the class of men who own their own businesses and prosper in them.

If you only want little things in life—if you are content to do the work out of which other people get rich, be content; stay as you are; draw your wages and be pleased when you get half-a-crown rise at Christmas. But if you want big things; if you want profits for yourself; if you want to be your own master, get the "Business Encyclopædia," and it will realise your ambitions for you. Write, at least, for the prospectus of it, and see what the "Business Encyclopædia" can teach you, for *this costs nothing*. Use this form or a postcard.

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OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, M.P., First Lord of the Treasury.

Dear Premier,—Forgive me if I disturb your well-earned holiday repose, but I would crave a word with you upon a matter of commercial importance. It has gone forth that Great Britain will not be officially represented at the international exhibition which will signalise the completion of the Panama Canal. I know not what diplomatic or other considerations may have so far deprived the project of your official blessing, but I trust that you may yet find means of surmounting any difficulties which may exist. You have been ever jealous of Britain's industrial prestige and you will scarcely fail to appreciate the importance of British participation in the pacific rivalry of commercial display. I look to you to uphold the commercial dignity of the nation and to recognise the wishes of the British community.

John Bull.

To H. E. A. Coate, Esq., Divisional Superintendent, London Education Committee.

Sir,—What is the matter with you? You are charged with the duty of issuing summonses against parents who wilfully neglect to send their "kiddies" to school. You recently prosecuted a poor casual labourer, who was represented at the Lambeth Police Court by his wife. The woman, who appeared weak and ill, bore in her arms a sick boy, nine years of age, in respect of whom a summons had been issued. The child had a hand and foot swathed in bandages, and was of a most sickly appearance. Staggering under his weight, the woman collapsed in a swoon and was carried from the Court. The magistrate adjourned the summons, but why was it ever brought? The boy was manifestly unfit to attend school. Did you know of his condition, and if not, was it not your business to find out all the circumstances before instituting legal proceedings? You appear to be a bit too free with your summonses. I must keep my eye on you.

John Bull.

To Thomas Powell, Esq., Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector of Wem, Shropshire.

Dear Mr. Powell,—'Pon my word, I think you ought to know why, after 34 years, the War Office have sent to you your medal for services rendered in the Zulu War of 1879. The rumour which reaches me is that you would have received your reward many years ago, but the man who should have sent it to you died and the medal got lost, and not until the other day, when Colonel Seely found it at the bottom of an old dust heap and had your number turned up by the keeper of ancient manuscripts at the British Museum, was it ascertained that it was yours. Further report is that there are several men of the Household Brigade who have been in heaven for years and have not yet received their medals for the Battle of Waterloo. How far these rumours are correct is not for me to say, and if it does not appear to you that they adequately explain the long withholding of your medal, you had better seek a personal explanation at the War Office, Moth-Eaten Department, Door 199, first turning on the right and straight on through the coal cellar. John Bull.

P.S.—I suggest you bequeath the medal to the Wem Museum, as an example to the rising generation of patience rewarded.—J. B.

To Sir Edward Henry, Chief Commissioner, Metropolitan Police.

Sir,—In discharging a man recently prosecuted by the police for betting in a public place, the Marylebone Magistrate remarked that the police had made a serious mistake. Such "mistakes" are unfortunately all too common, betting prosecutions being frequently instituted upon the slenderest evidence, or upon none at all. The Betting Act is in many respects a vexatious measure, and its incidence may be rendered intolerable by blundering administration. Would it be too much to ask you to issue clear and explicit instructions to your officers as to the limits of that duty which they are so apt to exceed?

John Bull.

To Mr. William Jones, President of the Anti-Gambling League, Morriston, Glamorgan, Wales.

Sir,—The circular which you have addressed to the licensed victuallers of Morriston—at any rate, to some of them—is as conspicuous for its audacity as for its novelty. You tell them that "we have formed a centre to suppress the evil of gambling in the town, and intend to fight it down by exposing those concerned in same through our ministers and calling on our congregation to assist us in bringing those concerned before the law (I might mention we have three magistrates enrolled in the League) and punishing same with the extremes of the law as a warning to other transgressors"; that "it has been laid before our committee that your house is used to a very great extent as a betting house, persons resorting thereto for no other purpose than to make bets on horses and to play at cards for money"; and that "we give you due and timely warning in a purely Christian spirit that unless these proceedings are put a stop to at once we shall do all that is in our power to have your licence indorsed."

I do not hold any brief, sir, for the publicans of Morriston, but the short comment I venture to make generally on your accusation with respect to them is that it is either the truth or a lie. If it is the truth, they must be fools and the police must be asleep; and if it is a lie, this is to inform you, and through you all your committee, that it is a libel actionable in damages at the suit of any of the recipients who cares to take proceedings against you. You tell them that "it has been laid before your committee" that their premises are used for betting and gambling, and the obvious meaning of your accusation is that they know their premises are thus used, because unless that is so they cannot "put a stop to these proceedings" as you menacingly demand.

The form of your threat, sir, leads me to suspect that your pretence of evidence to support your charge is mendacious bunkum. "All that is in your power" to procure an endorsement of their licences without formal prosecution by the police is—nothing; even the three magistrates whom you have "enrolled in the League" would not dare to endorse a licence with the offence you allege against them, for there can be no endorsement where there has been no conviction. I am not blind to the purpose for which you drag these magistrates, members of your League, into your epistle. It is to bolster up your threats, to give the weight of authority to the charge you make, to suggest to the publicans of Morriston that these particular Justices will do their little best, at any rate, to make it hot for them on what has been "laid before" your committee if you should bring them before the Bench. Your letter to the licensees of Morriston being a public and private outrage, I trust they will deal with it on public and private grounds by sharing the costs of a libel action.

John Bull.

To Cyril Cobb, Esq., Chairman, London County Council.

Sir,—My attention has been called to the miserable inadequacy of the wages paid to male attendants in the asylums controlled by your Council. Their duties are of an exacting and responsible character, and, as you are doubtless aware, they are required to be "on duty" from fourteen to sixteen hours a day. I am credibly informed, however, that their stipends are actually lower than those paid to similar workers in the provinces, and that to become "passing rich on forty pounds a year" is the limit of their prospects. The men recently petitioned the Asylums Committee, but without result. I cannot think that you can personally approve of so mean a scale of remuneration, and I urge you to exert your influence in furtherance of the men's just claims.

John Bull.

To Mr. J. M. Owen, Schoolmaster, Haslington, Cheshire.

Dear Sir,—You cannot be a bad sort of chap, seeing that all the "kiddies" are so fond of you. I understand that a new village school has been erected and a strange master installed as its head; but you have taught in Haslington for two years and a half, and it will not be the fault of the youngsters or their parents if you are driven out of the village, where you have won their loyalty and confidence. The scholars have gone on strike with the full approval of their elders. I cannot predict the issue, but I am disposed to think that you are the right man for Haslington, and I wish you the best of luck.

John Bull.

By the way, don't forget the Pen Coupon. See page iii. of Cover.

THE PILGRIM OF "PEACE."

(Dedicated to the 20th Universal Peace Congress now meeting at The Hague.)

MILITARISM: "Not quite convincing, perhaps; still it's not a bad make-up."

SHOULD THE WOMAN "TELL"?

A SPURIOUS SYMPOSIUM.

It is by now common knowledge that the Rev. A. J. Waldron, Vicar of Brixton, has written a problem play which is to be produced at a West End music-hall next October, under the title: "Should the Woman Tell?" The reverend playwright has declined to disclose the plot of the piece, but the "problem" is said to be that singularly interesting one. "Should a woman tell the man everything about her past?" In anticipation of Mr. Waldron's solution, we have elicited the opinion of a number of prominent persons on the question, and print below a judicious selection from the replies that have reached us:—

Mr. Hall Caine.—The question you put is one after my own heart. Anything that savours of the eternal sex problem has an intense interest for me. But as your inquiry deals with a subject that would make a very good novel indeed, and one likely to give rise to protests in puritanical quarters as well as to earn the libraries' ban, I am somewhat disinclined to dilate upon it until the eve of the publication of my book, which I have decided to start on at once, but I shall be pleased to publish a six-column article (signed) in the *Daily Telegraph* on the eve of its appearance,

Miss Marie Corelli.—I certainly think a woman should disclose her past with complete candour, provided the man does the same. Then, placing sin against sin, it will invariably be found that a system of cross cancelling will leave a large debit balance on the man's side of the account, which should silence subsequent reproaches on his part.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw.—I shall be glad to receive your cheque for two guineas by return of post. Otherwise the publication of my views, as under, is strictly forbidden. All rights reserved. "Should the woman tell?" Certainly not. Why should she? If he is half a man he will soon find out for himself. If he fails to do so, she has nothing to tell worth troubling about. Men should sternly discourage confidences of the kind indicated. Otherwise they lay themselves open to counter-questionings, from which none would be able to emerge with unblemished character, excepting those who possess a poker face and happen to be particularly good liars.

Mr. Keir Hardie.—Not only should the woman tell the man, but she should be forced to disclose before a magistrate the name, or names, and addresses of the parties with whom she has had pre-nuptial associations of any sort, whether merely flirtatious or positively flagitious. These particulars should be printed, and affixed to the door of the parish church of the place where the parties live, so that the whole world may know the character of the individuals who reside in their midst, and make it warm for them accordingly.

Mr. McKenna.—The only sin I think it incumbent upon a woman to confess to *the* man is participation in the practices of the militant suffragists. The man who will condone that must either be very much in love, a believer in votes for women, or a born fool—which last, in effect, embraces the two first.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor.—Should the woman feel impelled to make a confidant of the man, it would obviously be useful to him to possess a knowledge of shorthand, so that her statement might be taken down, say on his cuff, as she kneels at his feet, for subsequent transcription.

A VISIONARY BOOK REVIEW.

"Orange Blossom." A Novel. By Sir Edward Carson. (Constable. 3s. 6d.)

A grim story of domestic discord, describing the struggle of an ill-sorted pair, one to break and the other to maintain their union. It would not be fair to the author to disclose the ultimate outcome of the contest, for that is the climax of the story, and comes as a startling surprise to the reader. The succession of tragic situations through which the plot develops are pictured with such vivid and relentless realism, and the clash of contending wills described with so much fierce energy, that we are led to believe the author must have had an ulsterior motive in writing the book. But that is his business. It is sufficient for us that he has produced a work of arresting interest.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

Beneathe
Thys symple slabbe
Refte ye remaynes of
An honeft manne,
To witte,
George Lansbury,
Sometyme
Member of Parlymente
For
Bow and Bromley.
Born
Anno Domini 1850,
Hee was educated atte elementarie daie schooles,
Performynge hys taſkes wyth credit,
And wynnynge
Ye approbacione of hys teachers.
Thereafter
Hee worked atte home and in sundrie offyces
Until
Anno Domini 1884,
Whenne hee tooke itt intoe hys heade
Toe goe toe Auſtralia,
Ye whyche hee didde.
Returnynge ye nexte yeare,
Hee entered hys father's buſyneſse,
In ye whyche hee remayned toe ye ende,
Shewynge hymſelfe toe be
A kynde and confiderate employer
And a conſciencious buſyneſse manne.
Originallie an earneſt Radicall,
Hee became an ardente Socialyſt;
Butte
Soe greate was the confidence thatte hee inſpired
Thatte
Hee was eleckted
A Poor Law Guardian,
A Borough Councillor,
And
A Member of ye L.C.C.
Hee lykewyſe became
A Member of ye Central Unemployed Bodie of London,
A Member of ye Royale Commiſsione on ye Poor Law,
And
Eſtablyſhed ye firſt Poor Law Labour Colonie.
Butte,
As a sette off agaynſt theſe publick virtues,
He was notte entyrlie free from
Human failynges:
To witte,
He was a teetotaler,
And a non-smoaker,
And was given to wrytynge pamphlets and leaflets.
Butte all theſe thynges myghte have been
Forgiven hym
Hadde hee notte succumbed toe ye wiles
Of ye militant ſuffragettes,
For whoom
Hee sacrifyced
A uſefull publick career.
Toe ye grief of hys innumerable friendes
Hee broughte hymſelfe wythyn
Ye clutches of ye Law,
Was sentenced toe impriſonmente,
Practifed ye hunger strike,
And was releaſed under ye Cat and Mouſe Act.
And,
Toe ye sorrow of alle whoo knew hym,
Gave toe a sorrie cauſe and toe ye grave
Whatt myghte have beene uſefull toe humanitie.

Here Lanſbury lies, miſtaken butte sincere,
Whoo never smoaked, or ever taſted beere;
Hys reverence for womanhoode profounde
Ye weapon was thatte dealt hys mortal wounde:
Miſtakynge militants for thoſe more nyce,
Hee offered themme hymſelfe—a sacrifyce.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR FREE POOTBALL COUPON YET?
Nearly £2000 in Prizes. *See page ii of Cover.*

"Bullets" still booming. A New Feature—"Hat Trick" Prizes. See page 322.

Nerve Energy—

Mr. William D'Arcy (the well-known Irish folklore lecturer) writes:—"I know of nothing better than the use of Phosferine to ensure a uniformity of temperament, and the equanimity without which no appearance in public can be an unqualified success. It is the artist's most *reliable* friend, soothing the nerves and at the same time giving the needed VERVE, so that, however depressing the conditions of private worries may happen to be, the energy the moment requires is insured."—58, Chelsham Road, Clapham Common, S.W.

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CAUTION

There is only one Phosferine—beware of illegal imitations—do not be misled by PHOSPH THIS or PHOSPH THAT, but get

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST TONIC AND DIGESTIVE.

PHOSFERINE has been supplied by Royal Commands to

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H.M. the King of Spain
H.M. the late King of Greece
H.M. the Queen of Roumania
H.M. the Queen of Spain, etc.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

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Goods delivered on receipt of small payment.

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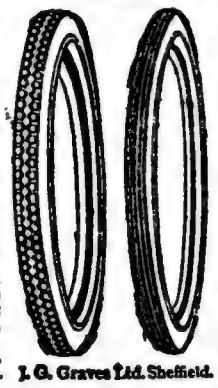
We supply this world-renowned make of Tyre at rock-bottom cash prices on Easy Terms. Any grade of **'Clincher' Tyres** supplied to approved orders for small payment with order and the balance to be completed in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after full examination at your own home.

The 'Clincher' B Motor Cycle Tyre with beaded edge. Cover only.
26 x 2 .. **21/-** 3/6 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. **27/6** 4/7 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' A Won Motor Cycle Tyre. Beaded edge. Cover only.
26 x 2 .. **28/2** 4/9 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. **31/7** 5/3 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. **36/2** 6/- Monthly.

The 'Clincher' De Luxe Rubber Studded Non-Skid Motor Cycle Tyre, made with beaded edge only. Single Covers supplied in the following sizes:
26 x 2½ .. **39/-** 6/6 Monthly.
26 x 2½ (to fit 2½ rim) **45/6** 7/7 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. **47/6** 7/11 Monthly.

ON EASY TERMS AT CASH PRICES.



J. G. Graves Ltd. Sheffield.

The 'Clincher' Popular Tyre. Wired or beaded edge as ordered. Size, 28 x 1½ only. Cover and Tube, **11/3** 2/3 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' B Tyre. Wired edge. Supplied in all standard sizes. Cover and Tube, **13/1** 2/8 Monthly. Beaded edge, 3d. extra.

The 'Clincher' A Won Roadster Cycle Tyre, wired or beaded edge as ordered. Supplied in all standard sizes. Cover and Tube, **17/-** 2/10 Monthly.

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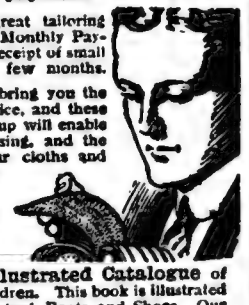
GRAVES SUITS embody all the essentials of a great tailoring success—good style, good taste, good value; and our Easy Monthly Payment Terms enable you to have your suit immediately on receipt of small payment with order and spread the cost over the next few months.



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Write to-day for our comprehensively Illustrated Catalogue of high-grade footwear for Men, Women, and Children. This book is illustrated throughout from direct photographs of the actual Boots and Shoes. Our selection is so extensive as to meet all tastes, and our prices suit all pockets. We supply any quantity of footwear on receipt of a small payment now, the balance being completed in equal monthly payments after the Boots have been examined and tried on in your own home.

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WE DELIVER the Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe exactly to specification (Lady's or Gent's) carriage paid to all approved orders for **10/-** Now, and Easy Monthly Payments after delivery until the account is cleared, if you are entirely delighted and satisfied with the machine after full examination at your own home.

SPECIFICATION.

REYNOLDS' STEEL TUBING
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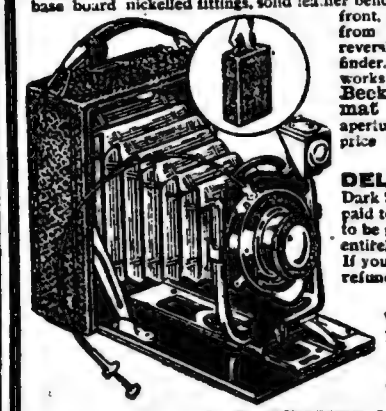
Folds up to 4½ x 5½ x 2½. The **Graves 'Surbiton' ½-Plate Model.** Ebonised polished base board nickelled fittings, solid leather bellows, solid aluminium cast stirrup shaped lens front, engraved focusing scale from 3 to 25 feet, and infinity, reversible oblong and upright view finder, variable speed shutter that works trigger and antinous release, **Beck Neostigmar Anastigmat Lens** series III in No. 3, aperture F.7.7. (maker's catalogue price of Lens £1 : 17 : 6).



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DELIVERED complete with two single Metal Dark Slides and waterproof carrying case carriage paid to approved orders for **5/-** with order, balance to be paid in 11 monthly payments of **5/-** if you are entirely satisfied after full examination and trial. If you are in any way disappointed we will instantly refund the whole of the money you have paid.

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HOLIDAY HAUNTS AND JAUNTS.

WHERE OUR POLITICIANS WILL GO. AND WHY.

By Richard Morton.

Now that Parliament is "up," the movements of Ministers on vacation are a source of much interest to various sections of the public. The daily papers have duly told us where our politicians have planned to spend their holidays, but everything that has appeared in print is not necessarily true. For certain reasons, the facts have been subtly disguised, and an attempt has been made to hoodwink the public.

We, however, are able to lift the veil and to give the truth of the matter. Consider, first, the case of the Premier.

Mr. Asquith.—It has been announced that he will spend the autumn at his new home up the Thames. Yet another statement is to the effect that he goes to Germany for a cure. Hints about a trip to the Mediterranean and a visit to Spain have also been dropped. All this mystery and make-believe has been invented for one purpose only—that of dishing his lady friends and would-be visitors. Mr. Asquith is really going to Scotland. He will travel secretly, in a close disguise, and the date of his departure is known only to Scotland Yard and himself. His place of rest is a fortified castle, surrounded by a moat and guarded by a drawbridge, over which nobody in petticoats (except Highlanders) will be allowed to pass.

Mr. Churchill.—This right hon. and gallant gentleman will not desert his naval studies even while on holiday. If you see a person in blue glasses and red wig sailing his model yacht, the *Enchantress*, on the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens, you may be sure it is Mr. Churchill. On other days he will be exploring the river on the steamboats that run from London Bridge either up to Hampton Court or down to Southend. The question he intends to decide is whether or not to arm these pleasure steamers with quick-firing guns for defensive purposes.

Mr. Birrell will spend his holidays in Ireland, this being the very last place one would expect to find him in. We do not, however, credit the statement, circulated by a news agency, that he will be the guest in turn of Lord Londonderry and Captain Craig.

Mr. John Burns is shortly leaving London for Battersea Park, where he has his country seat, on a bench near the lake. He has installed private telephone communication with all local fire stations, so that he may be summoned at any hour of the day or night in the event of a conflagration. When there are no fires, he will put in a restful time inspecting the trams, police, tube railways, &c., while he expects to walk over a thousand miles with the troops during the coming Army manœuvres. He will fill in odd time by doing the work of his department left behind by other officials on vacation. He will be disguised in a reefer jacket and bowler hat.

Mr. McKenna.—Much of the Home Secretary's holiday will be passed at the Patent Office, studying new designs for mouse-traps. It is not expected that he will really enjoy much holiday, as his lady friends are pledged to keep him busy, one way or another.

Sir Edward Grey.—Being fond of harmony, Sir Edward will give a great deal of his time to the European Concert. One of his favourite relaxations is to listen to "The Turkish Patrol" played by a German band or the Blue Hungarians.

Lord Haldane.—The Lord Chancellor takes a holiday under protest. He considers he has rest enough all the time on the Woolsack.

Mr. Masterman.—The published statement that this gentleman is departing for Switzerland is totally erroneous. Nor will he spend his time golfing. We are able to state that he will spend his vacation in a happy indulgence in his favourite pursuit of whitewashing.

Lord Crewe firmly declines to state where he is going. "Anywhere out of this beastly Westminster," he says. "I often wonder how I got mixed up in the business!"

Mr. Samuel has found a little spot in Hampshire where there is only one post a day, and no telegraph or telephone. Here he expects to be perfectly happy.

* * * * *

The movements of Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Sylvia Pankhurst are undecided. They may, or may not, spend one or two days in the salubrious air of Holloway.

ENSURING GOOD DIGESTION.

Importance of Preventing Food Fermentation in Stomach.

Good digestion usually means good health. So long as the stomach does its work properly disease can find no lodgment in the human system; the liver, kidneys and intestines will perform their work perfectly and remain in perfect health; but interfere with the proper digestion of food and an unending train of troubles is set in motion. About the only thing that will upset the stomach and interfere with the digestion is an excess of acid, usually caused by food fermentation. Food fermentation is due to chemical action in the food itself. This fermentation causes the formation of gas, or wind, as well as acid, resulting in the unnatural distention of the stomach and the burning by the acid of the delicate lining of the stomach.

Medicines and tonics cannot relieve this condition—they usually make it worse. The fermentation and acid are to blame, and these must be overcome and prevented by taking after meals half a teaspoonful of bisurated magnesia in a little hot or cold water. Physicians recommend bisurated magnesia especially because it stops or prevents fermentation of food and neutralises the acid instantly, making it bland and harmless without irritating or upsetting the stomach in any way. Get a little bisurated magnesia from your chemist and try it the next time your food ferments and upsets your stomach. Note how quickly the acid is neutralised, and how soon you forget that you have such a thing as a stomach.

Are YOU a successful "BULLETS" COMPETITOR?

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IF you are really ambitious to "get on," you must grip the handle and open the door to promotion and better pay for yourself.

Only a practical training makes a man able to open that door. Ability, energy, pluck, stand waiting outside. But if you add to these a sound, practical, technical training, then you will enter in.

A wide-awake man is always eager to inquire into and examine for himself the means by which others have won success. If you will write to us we will send you a full account of the I.C.S. and their work.

It depends upon YOU which shall be written across your life's work: FAILURE or SUCCESS. Do not rely on your present prospects, however bright they may seem. It is the trained men, and trained men only, to whom the future is assured. Write TO-DAY—MARK the Coupon—and we will send on full information and advice.

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Please send I.C.S. Booklet explaining how I can gain a thorough, practical and up-to-date knowledge of the subject before which I have marked X, and so qualify for a Secure Position and Better Pay.

—Engineering *(state which)*	—Building	—Motor
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Awarded Gold Medal

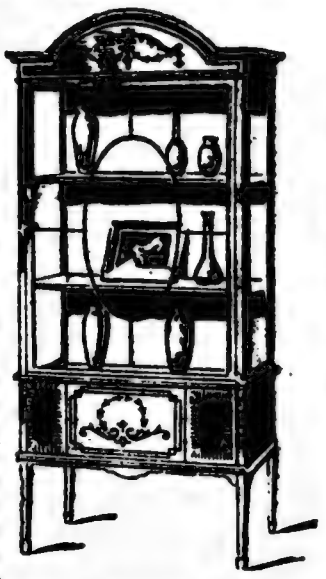
"I Could Not Have Furnished Better."

Everyone says it—it's just the general impression our furniture creates. Very rightly, too, when they have had experience of the splendid value we give, and the many little detail refinements which we incorporate in our designs.

A brief reading of the following will prove to you how really easy it is to buy our Furniture.

We have a **Gradual Payment** arrangement which enables you to secure immediate delivery of any furniture you select, the only payment necessary being a small monthly instalment spread over a period of one, two, or three years. We do not ask for security or deposit, nor do we add interest. **FREE LIFE INSURANCE** whereby in the event of the death of the hirer the furniture becomes the property of the widow or children without further payment. Also Free Fire Insurance.

Where it is preferred to pay cash, we allow an additional discount of 10 per cent. and further pay the fares of country customers to our showrooms on any order amounting to £20 or over.



Inlaid Mahogany, Sheraton style Cabinet, beautifully finished and lined, £3 3s. 0d.

The Firm that makes Furnishing Easy.

Buffet Sideboard in Oak or Mahogany, fitted with convex mirror at back, two cupboards and two drawers, £8 10s. 0d.

Those who are unable to call should send for our **LARGE CATALOGUE.** *Country customers may rely on the most intelligent and careful execution of their orders, and the goods will be safely packed and delivered carriage paid anywhere.*

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Worth.	Per Month.	Worth.	Per Month.
£10	£0 6 0	£100	£2 5 0
20	0 11 0	200	4 10 0
30	0 17 0	500	11 5 0
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50	1 8 0		

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A. M. STEWART, Managing Director

The firm that makes furnishing easy.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," AND* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 320.
For Sporting Replies, see page 324.

"BUNNY" (Glasgow).—We are not a society journal. Why not communicate with the *Winning Post?*

G. McK. (Burntisland).—We are not responsible for the stupidity of the Scotch Law.

G. A. B. (Forest Gate).—We are not sufficient experts to form an opinion as to the intrinsic merits of the Marconi Contract. We think, however, it may safely be assumed, in view of recent events, that the Contract would not have been entered into had there been any prospect of doing better elsewhere.

XXX (London).—By your description, you are suffering from a stiff neck. This should be well oiled with Black and White or Johnny Walker liniment. After the first bottle or two, a soothing, limp feeling will displace the stiffness.

"WORRIED."—No, there is no remedy for twins, excepting the well-known one of—never get married.

B. D. (London).—Why interfere with a wart in so convenient a position? Use it as a collar stud.

O. I. C. (Exeter).—If your wife has the mumps, buy her *Mary Bull.* It is a certain cure.

"JUSTICE" (Aldershot) is a soldier, and he informs us that his regiment arrived in this country from India last March, when the men were promised a furlough "as soon as possible." He complains that they have not had leave yet, on account of field training. He thinks it a shame. Tut, tut! Whatever is the Army coming to when men are so selfish as to think of their own pleasures before the interests of the Empire?

Mr. L. BLOND (Wardour Street), the "unqualified" dentist, says that he takes our paragraph with reference to him all in good part but, "as a sportsman," he continues, "you should let the public know I only make teeth for masticating food, not for breaking cotton or thread." But cotton and thread is much more tender than some food.

W. W. (Edinburgh) draws our attention to the fact that Mr. Fred. Wilson and his brother served the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company for 58 years each. They were never late but once during that time, *and they have both retired without a pension.* Their individual weekly wage was about 22s. As the old gentlemen are now over 70 years of age, we presume they have invested sufficient in Consols to be independent of any pension the L. and Y. R. may have contemplated giving them.

C. H. (Coventry).—Happy is he who expecteth nothing, for he shall not be disappointed.

T. R. M. (Halifax).—Applications for the post of Poet Laureate should have been made in writing to the Premier, enclosing samples of goods.

T. E. J. (Carlisle).—Many hundreds of people write to us every week "anent" this, that or the other, and it is necessarily a case of first come, first served. The reason we have not thought it necessary to deal with the undoubted cruelty to the unfortunate horses during the recent drive of the Mothers' Meeting to Annam is that it was wrought by want of thought and not by want of heart. The next time the local clergyman contemplates transferring such an excessive load of feminine adipose to the distant scenes, he will no doubt put on a few more horses.

F. W. B. (Gorton).—By your "account of the way you have been treated by Armstrong, Whitworth and Co." you appear to be one of those persons who are born to trouble as the sparks fly upwards. It was thus with Jonah, the son of Amittai, who went down to Joppa, there embarked for Tarshish, and presently found himself chucked overboard to calm the troubled waters, and inside the belly of a great fish where he lived three days and three nights.

W. W. (Rainhill).—Thanks for scanning our matter very carefully and coming to the conclusion that we are worth a penny. In a week or two you will come to the conclusion that we are worth tuppence. Meanwhile we have read the par. headed "Should Girls Be Caned?" Why not ask Mrs. Spankhurst?

F. L. (Birmingham).—We note that the *Yorkshire Post* refuses your advertisement unless you delete the words, "Winners at good prices," as they "do not insert anything in advertisements that can be construed as an incitement to betting." Perhaps the sporting editor has joined the *Yorkshire Post* Hard Shell Baptists.

H. W. W. (Bexhill).—After your experience of the butler who came to you with "highest references from a well-known baronet," and disappeared from your employ "with every bottle of wine in the cellar" before you were ready to take possession of the house, it is not surprising that you think there may be two sides to our "Cruel Shame" par.

G. R. B. (Clapham).—Perhaps it is fraternal love which induces you to think that your brother has been dismissed from his overseership in the Public Works Department in Hong Kong because "he isn't Scotch and doesn't punch the Bible." Don't be offended if we say that natural affection isn't good evidence.

"A BRITON" (Tientsin).—In hearty agreement with you in your strictures on the missionary business in China, and especially in regard to the Rev. Lord William Cecil's appeal for funds to establish a Christian University for Chinese. "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine lest they trample them under their feet and turn again and rend you."

"PAPA PARSONS" (On Tour).—We do not doubt that your nine children performing with you and your wife in dance and song are a very happy family, and that the kiddies are well cared for. As a general rule, however, we do not believe in the exploitation of children on the stage by people whose only interest in them is the money they can make out of them. And you have also heard the saying (it does not apply to you) "We all work except father."

"NEMO" (Maida Vale).—Judging by the aroma, it is maida stale rum. Apparently the old story, "Give a woman a sovereign and a basket and see what a load she will bring home. Give a man a sovereign and no basket and see what a load *he* will bring home."

H. F. M. (London, S.W.).—Quite so. Kensit's itinerant Wyckliffites are a sect of religious monomaniacs.

J. B. (Ayr).—Afraid we cannot make the strong references to the immorality of Ayr a justification for revealing the story of the speaker's past life, interesting as is the way you tell it.

J. W. (Dundee).—The letter which reaches us is evidently intended for the *Dundee Courier,* which appears to have given a great deal of space to the ventilation of local opinion on the unco guids of Broughty Ferry who are making such a ridiculous fuss about the Council's Sunday concerts.

V. C. M. (Edgware Road).—Handbill headed "Straight Tips from the Racecourse" received. As you say, surely religion (so-called) misses its mark by such sensationalising as this:—"The horse which may win. And I looked, and behold a Pale Horse; and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him."

H. B. (Newbury).—The letter the Westminster Bridge Road people sent to you in reply to our criticisms is one they keep in stock for the purpose. Cannot you see that, if what we have said about them is not true, they would have commenced a libel action against us long ago? As for "Other Editorial Opinions" you will probably find on inquiry that they were inspired by the advertisements in the papers which published them. However, if you have no better use for your money, let Westminster Bridge Road have it.

£100 for a "Mauve" Coupon signed by a Lady. See Our Offer on page 315.

H. B. N. (Westcliff).—Sorry we cannot "raise our voice to urge the public to cease their support of hospitals, with a view to State maintenance and control. The subscriptions of the rich people, who are the main support of hospitals, are to be regarded as fire insurance premiums, while the pennies of the working classes are to be looked upon as their thank offerings. The State is at present busily enough occupied messing and muddling in concerns it should leave alone, without throwing the hospitals on the rates and the taxes, and making their administration even more open to criticism than it is at present.

M. W. (Montreal).—Unfortunately, it is not possible to acknowledge all the cuttings we receive. We appreciate them none the less for all that, and as most of our readers well know, we think our thanks even when we cannot express them. So, always, our thanks to you and to all.

E. W. G. (Edgware).—Though the railway fare is but a penny, the Great Northern Railway Company insist on charging you 6d. per journey for your 'cello. Cheer up; the worst never happens. They would charge you 6d. per journey for your umbrella if they could. Letters needed for reference files.

H. J. R. (Hadleigh).—Why are you so amazed that Colonel and Mrs. Simpson, head of the Salvation Army Colony, should make a charge for hearing the S.A. International Staff Band on the occasion of its visit? When *did* the S.A. miss a chance of passing round the hat?

Mrs. A. B. (Bethnal Green).—If the panel doctor swore at you, and also would not attend your husband unless you paid 1s., report him to the Insurance Commissioners; remembering that your side of the story is one thing and that his may be another.

E. L. (Leicester Square).—An Indian student in London, native of Bombay, you tell us you were refused refreshment, "because you are coloured," at a licensed house. They apparently forget you are a British subject. If you conduct yourself as a gentleman the management ought to serve you. The best way of dealing with this sort of thing is to turn up at the Sessions when they apply for renewal of the licence and state the facts of the case to the magistrates.

H. E. G. (Hammersmith).—Your Wellerism, not ours:—"'Glad eye hooked him,' as the actress said of the peer."

J. W. W. (Hull).—Local *Daily News* not entitled to biscuit for "But to-morrow at 2.30 the remedy was supplied." The junior reporter got up a little too early, that is all. Specimen of American humour, no joke.

"Aitchvee" (Earls Colne).—As a rider to the rhyme, *re* "D—, by a Clergyman," "Naughty little cuss words," etc., your "Blessed little saint words, 'Suffer,' 'Serve,' and 'Love,' these—and such like quaint words—lead us up above," is accepted with thanks. In truth, we prefer it as an alternative.

"Ignorance" (Heckmondwike).—Thank you. Surely you will understand that in the absence of the numbers it is utterly impossible to test the statements of your nephew or your own unworthy insinuations. Supposing, adopting your epistolary style, we retorted that your nephew was probably drunk at the time and did not know whether he sent the extra postal order or lit his pipe with it, how then?

"Illegitimate."—"He who ne'er knows a father's name, His mother's love should not disdain, Her loving care will ever guide His wandering footsteps on life's tide." We know what you mean; but the worst of breaking into poetry about it is that you have given mother a job she cannot do. If she is going to guide his wandering footsteps on life's tide she'll either have to live in a boat or hold him up from a balloon. She can't keep on swimming all day and all night, can she?

Capt. W. B. (Harwich).—Your story of the woman who tapped the man on the shoulder and said—well, if we repeated what you say she said, we should be accused of telling funny stories.

H. R. (Barnsley).—As far as we know, there are not any official guides attached to the British or any other London Museum, save at the Natural History Museum, where we believe the gentleman is or was a trained naturalist.

R. B. (Alton).—You saw these lines (among others) "hung opposite a church": . . . "I noticed with amazement they gave money to the poor, In sums exceeding tuppence now and then, At that I threw the Parish Magazine upon the floor, And softly said a word which ends with ——n." The question is, How much did the poet put in the poor box after he had said it?

A. J. S. (Islington).—All you can do is to complain in writing to the railway company if you feel yourself aggrieved by the conduct of the booking clerk. No action against the clerk would lie; but the company might make him sit up.

H. F. (Broadway Brays).—You may be right in stating that the "Bulleyes" you send are "the sort they mount on Super-Dreadnoughts, real 16 inchers," for we are not dead certain about the anatomy of Super-Dreadnoughts, but please spare us the task of elucidating the incomprehensible.

"Lieut. Mac." (Portsmouth).—You are wrong in saying there is not any concoction which will restore hair. When the hair falls off during a severe illness, for instance, also in cases of *alopecia areata*, it is frequently and indeed usually capable of restoration. Senile and prosenile baldness, due to root degeneration, is a different matter. Never be positive unless you know.

W. J. D. (Nottingham).—Keep your hair on. The correction of which you think so highly *re* Colonel Seely's "Epitaph" has not reached us, and even when it does it is not improbable, judging by your mistaken notions of grammar, that it will have to be corrected.

"Plymouthian" (Hove).—Although you think we are "too hard on landlords, policemen, bailiffs, duns, etc., and too soft with militants, tender-skinned debtors, etc.," you appreciate that we are sound on Marconis. Good, good sir; but as an aside, do you know some people think we are too soft on Marconis and too hard on Spankhurts? Funny world, isn't it?

A. H. R. (Norwich).—No knowledge of the leg-stretching concern of Arthur Girvan, 17, Stroud Green Road, London, N. As to his statement that "no appliances are required," all we are concerned to point out is the saying which is written: "Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit to his stature?"

F. W. (Regent Street) wishes to know "why it is that there exists such a deadly hatred in this country of the Germans and everything German." The hatred, as such, is your delusion. The Englishman does not hate the German; he only keeps his eye on him, in case his wife should awake in the middle of the next morning while he is at the club, look under the bed, and find the Kaiser there.

J. B. (Hayling Island).—Sorry we can't help you to get a watch from *Ally Sloper's Half Holiday*. "My name has been announced as a prizewinner," you say, "but I haven't had it yet (7th July)." Live in hope, if you die in despair. Meantime, watch and pray.

G. H. H. (Pendleton) and Others.—Thanks for your information *re* wages paid by Barrett's, of Wood Green.

J. H. (Stockwell).—"Dear Sir," you remark, "Private and Confidential. May I draw your attention to a not isolated case of the injustice of the present working of the Insurance Act?" We have not the slightest objection, but said case is like about one million others.

"Impossible" (Tunbridge Wells).—Notice is hereby given that you have "perfected a box which no one on earth can open" except yourself. In these circumstances, we have much pleasure in informing you "how to get money out of it." Keep your money in it.

A. E. (Dublin).—The methods of the British Clothing Club, 74, Oldham Street, Manchester, are becoming the subject of increasing complaint. Make a further demand for the return of your money, and if you still receive no reply let us hear from you again.

G. R. M. (Plymouth).—We do not advise you to give ten guineas to the Radford Matrimonial Agency, or £27 11s. 6d. to the Charlesworth Matrimonal Agency, for their alleged abilites in supplying you with a rich wife. Rich wives are apt to be a nuisance about the house, anyway, and when there are hundreds of nice girls without a penny who would love you for yourself alone, why not select one and then render fervent thanks unto Providence that you have got her?

G. R. L. (Morley).—You have tried nearly all sorts of things, you say, and ask us whether there are any possible means we can suggest to you for making a living. Try dyeing.

Mrs. S. L. (Dalston).—Not so, dear lady. We would not be so surgical as to "cut you up in little bits" because, contrary to ourselves, you have a sacred opinion of friend Lobb and his spooks.

J. L. (Brook Green).—It is catch advertising, not peculiar to Leyburn, Spence and Co. You thought, of course, that you were replying to the "gentleman and two friends" who wanted the "bright home," whereas you were really replying to L. S. and Co., who want half a guinea out of you before you have even a chance of learning whether or not the aforementioned young gents have a corporeal existence. Don't part.

W. J. B. (Penderyn).—Not possible for us to deal with *ex parte* statements in trade union disputes between workmen and their employers.

"Sammy" (Hull).—Be good, and hope for the best, Sammy, though we admit it's hard upon a crittur to court a girl and then not git her.

E. R. (Brighton).—Do you take the view that house-breaking by a suffragist in alleged furtherance of votes for women is a political offence? We suppose that if the youth sentenced cut off your husband's head in furtherance of said cause you would not only have him let off without a stain on his escutcheon, but would have given him a pretty bouquet as a souvenir of the occasion?

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Turn to page 293 for the Result of Our Fifth Cricket Contest.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation :—
Isn't Turkey a well-plucked old bird ?
Wasn't Harry Thaw's escape rather a frost ?
Isn't the Earl's Court canary a bit of a lark ?
Wasn't "The Big Game" very well played ?
Wouldn't some people like the Shops Act "sacked" ?
Isn't the cheaper bacon we are promised merely "gammon" ?
Would a rise in the charges cause a "storm in the tea-shop" ?
Isn't the waterplane competition a very "singular" event ?
Isn't it appropriate that the militants should resort to "blazes" ?
What do the Unionists think of Lloyd George's "Chesterfieldian" manners ?
Have the Trades Unions discovered that they cannot do without "capital" ?
Isn't "Deauville"—where Mrs. Pankhurst has gone—liable to be mis-pronounced ?
Won't the "doom of the milk-can" mean that some men will come home alone ?

* * *

Some Things the Doctors *Cannot* Do :—
Kill whiskers.
Take the side out of a nut.
Give a barge a more refined lip.
Clip the surplus from a long face.
Reduce the cheek of a moneylender.
Give a rejected candidate a new seat.
Cancel the shooting licence of a corn.
Give a sea-sick passenger an appetite.
Reduce the tax-collector's collar bone.
Put a Party Hack on a sound footing.
Provide a short man with another foot.
Relieve the man under a woman's thumb.
Prevent Time marking figures on our dials.
Prevent the nose taking a blow on the bridge.
Find the loose screw when the mind is unhinged.
Prescribe a sovereign remedy for the pinch of Poverty.

* * *

She : "Have you heard the latest scandal ?"
He : "No, this is the first time I've seen you for a week."

* * *

"Are you fond of sports, Mrs. Johnson ?"
"I ought to be; I married one."

* * *

"Pass the Salt" :—
An old man with pains most erratic,
Said in tones that were surely emphatic,
"It's as damp as a tomb
In my small attic room,
And I know I am getting rheum-atic !"

* * *

Patient : "Doctor, I would like to have your bill."
Doctor : "You had better wait until you are a little stronger."

* * *

One Woman to Another : "How well you look ! but, then, you look well in anything."

* * *

Auntie : "A penny for your thoughts."
Little Nephew : "I was thinking that if I kept quiet and pretended to be thinking, you'd wonder what I was thinking about, and say just what you did."

* * *

He laughs best whose laugh lasts.

* * *

Never put a gift cigar in the mouth.

* * *

In the race for wealth Right often gets left.

* * *

Ridicule, unless barbed with reason, is ridiculous.

* * *

The unconventional woman needs no chaperon.

* * *

If there were fewer fatted calves there would be fewer prodigal sons.

* * *

Only religious compositions should be played on an upright piano.

* * *

Woman's sphere, in spite of all that her apologists may say, is at the best but a hemisphere.

* * *

We do not always learn from the mistakes of others, but we are always ready to profit by them.

* * *

He that is successful can afford to smile; he that is not successful cannot afford to do otherwise.

* * *

When a man thinks one woman is different from other women, it argues that he does not know either the one or the others.

Mr. G. F. Archer has made his mark in Somaliland.

* * *

"Mackerel seven a penny," we read. Sounds fishy.

* * *

It is a mistake to pick quarrels; take them as they come.

* * *

A new comedy is called "Never Say Die." Not even of laughter ?

* * *

"Germany takes the Plum," reads a headline. She would take anything.

* * *

A heifer recently swallowed a table-cloth and a safety pin. Did you heifer !

* * *

Spicy Bit won a race at Folkestone. We should have expected it to "go down."

* * *

"There is always room at the top," must sound ironical to the poet in a garret.

* * *

A bird's nest caused a fire at Folkestone. But a nest always means striking a match.

* * *

"Cranks in the Commons," we read. Yes, and unfortunately they always get their "turn."

* * *

Ice cream, it is stated, is a luxury in France. Our climate doesn't make it a necessary here.

* * *

A Chicago woman recently voted with her foot. Lots of us would like to do it in that way.

* * *

"Lovers do not want to be treated reasonably," says Roy Horniman. Which is just as well.

* * *

"Is there a Hell ?" To every man who worries us with the question we reply, "Wait and see."

* * *

The New York woman who got a divorce because her husband was too "domesticated" will be in demand.

* * *

Dresses are now so tight that the wearer cannot sit down comfortably. But the dear things will stand it.

* * *

Owing to the increased cost of living, suburban hostesses are not receiving. The "At Home" is "going out."

* * *

A youth who had been dumb for ten years found his voice during a cricket match. Was he given out unfairly ?

* * *

America is debating whether women should compete with men in athletics. Not in "scratch" events, anyhow.

* * *

Lord Harewood suggests the stocks for militants. The ladies will not favour such a Government "security."

* * *

A forthcoming comedy is to be called "The Real Thing." We hope there will be something in a name this time.

* * *

The telephone as a cure for deafness is suggested. But exchange operators usually suffer from that complaint !

* * *

At an Ohio baseball game the umpire had his skull fractured by an irate player. The game seems to be well named.

* * *

At Standon, Herts, there have been no weddings for six months. The young men stand off at Standon, evidently.

* * *

A speaker at the Welsh Eisteddfod declared there would never be another Shakespeare. Bacon is getting scarce, too.

* * *

The account of Walking Weston's tramp of over 1,500 miles at the age of 75 is headed "Remarkable Feat." More bad spelling.

* * *

The authorities at a Baltimore hospital declare that smiling will prevent appendicitis. But most folk consider it nothing to laugh at.

* * *

"Of all the suburbs," says a critic, "none approaches St. John's Wood in beauty." Thought all its "beauties" had emigrated ?

* * *

An American was disappointed on seeing Pavlova at the Palace. "Call that dancing ?" he observed. "Why, there wasn't a mite of ragtime in it !"

* * *

7,000 doctors from all parts have been holding a Congress in London. Reckoning each doctor as leaving 100 patients behind him, this shows 700,000 patients rapidly recovering.

Had your "John Bull" Pen yet. One is waiting for You. Coupon on p. iii. of Cover.

NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY. FINAL COUPON.

Fifteen Hundred Pounds!

This week we give the Final Coupon in our opening Football contest. This is your last chance of sharing in our initial mammoth prizes for Football skill. Besides the huge cash prize of £1,500 and contingent cash awards amounting to £550, and a special £100 Mauve coupon prize, an unlimited number of Football Season Tickets to any ground are to be won. These free ticket prizes will not be repeated-so seize the opportunity this week.

£300
FOR NEAREST FORECASTS SHORT OF FULL NUMBER.

£150
FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT.

£100
FOR A MAUVE COUPON.

In addition to our mammoth cash offer we shall award an unlimited number of Football Season Tickets. Every competitor sending an Entrance Form giving 16 or more correct forecasts will be awarded one of these special prizes—which will enable the winners to witness every match at any Football Ground they may select during the whole season under comfortable conditions and free of all expense.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, WE SHALL AWARD AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF

FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS AS PRIZES

TO SENDERS OF 16 OR MORE CORRECT FORECASTS.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the 20 League Games to be played on **Saturday, September 6th,** given on the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

£1,500 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an Entrance Form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given, played to a finish, even if THE NUMBER BE ONLY 8 OR 10.

The RULES and
COUPON
will be found
on
PAGE 2 of COVER.

Abandoned Matches make No Difference.

In the event of no Entrance Form being received giving the whole of the correct results

£300 IN CASH

will be paid to the competitor giving most correct forecasts short of the full number. We shall also pay as a further prize

£150 IN CASH

to the competitor sending the next highest number of correct forecasts, and **£100 in cash** will be paid to the lady sending in most correct forecasts on a *mauve* coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. Thus, should it happen that the first prize of £1,500 be not won, we shall, in any event, still award the £300 as well as the £150, and a lady must win a huge cash prize by using a *Mary Bull* mauve coupon.

In addition an unlimited number of unique Football prizes will be awarded. To every competitor sending 16 or more correct forecasts we shall award a Season ticket to any Football ground the competitor may select. *Winners of these special prizes have the option of choosing the cash value of the ticket.*

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE, and any number can be enclosed in the same envelope, but every coupon must be signed by the person making the forecasts.

NO FEES!
NO GOALS!
Required.

The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football columns of the daily papers.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

£100 FOR A "MAUVE" COUPON.

We shall pay the huge sum of £100 in cash to the lady sending in an Entrance Form giving more correct forecasts than any other lady competitor, *providing the Entrance Form is a mauve one taken from "Mary Bull."* By using a mauve coupon lady competitors have the same opportunity as JOHN BULL competitors of winning the £1,500, or the £300 and the £150, but *in addition* a mauve coupon means the additional advantage of our £100 special lady's prize offer. Thus a "mauve" coupon *must win* a huge cash prize. The final mauve coupon will be found in *Mary Bull*, on sale Friday, August 29. You can send in as many mauve coupons as you like.

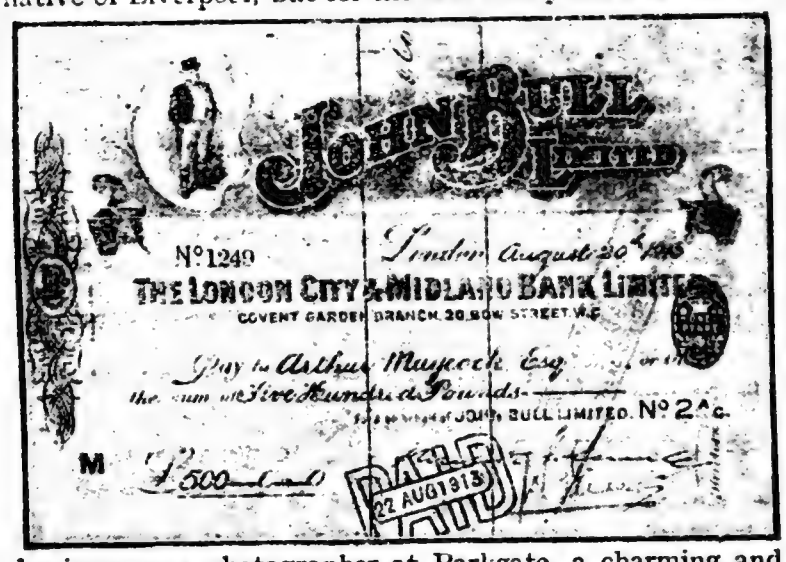
YOUR LAST CHANCE TO WIN A FREE SEASON TICKET.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 322 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other valuable prizes.

OUR 44TH "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

A COUNTRY PHOTOGRAPHER'S TIMELY AND HELPFUL GREAT WIN.

Mr. Arthur Maycock, of The Studio Parkgate, Cheshire, the winner of our 44th "Bullets" Competition, states that our letter informing him that he had been awarded the premier prize and enclosing the £500 cheque was just the best news he could have had at the time. He is especially pleased that his good fortune has come from this journal, as he is a great admirer of it. He tells us that he had taken particular notice that those efforts which have gained the larger prizes have always been most direct and apt—simple, one might almost say, and yet so forceful as to arrest attention at once. Convinced that the judging was carried out with the most scrupulous fairness, he has been heartened to persevere and attempt to reach the standard which he could see was set by the adjudicators—and has now, of course, scored triumphantly. Mr. Maycock is a native of Liverpool, but for the last nine years has been in


JOHN BULL LIMITED
No 1249
London August 20th 1913
THE LONDON CITY & MIDLAND BANK LIMITED
COVENT GARDEN BRANCH 20 BOW STREET W.C.
Pay to Arthur Maycock Esq. or Order
the sum of Five Hundred Pounds
for account of JOHN BULL LIMITED. No 2 A/c.
M £500
PAID
22 AUG 1913

business as a photographer at Parkgate, a charming and quaint little village on the Dee, a few miles from Chester. His magnificent prize will be of great advantage to him in his business, as the present-day requirements demand most up-to-date apparatus, which he can now obtain. He will also be able to take a much-needed, if brief, holiday—the first for ten years, except an occasional week-end. The successful line was entirely self evolved, Mr. Maycock never having sought or accepted the aid of "solution mongers." He has been kind enough to send us £5 for distribution amongst our "Human Documents," and is also forwarding a similar amount to the Charles Thompson's Poor Children's Mission, Birkenhead, the good work of which he has known and admired for the past twenty years, and is now able to help in this practical manner.

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Mr. R. T. Millington, 48, Brook Street, Chester, until August 30th, and thence until September 3rd at those of Mr. A. J. W. Brown, 56, Northgate Street, Chester.

THE GREAT DELUSION.

"The greatest fallacy of the age is the seaside holiday."—"Cynic," in *Daily Express*.

I thought to find a silver sea,
A stretch of hard and golden sand;
Wee wavelets plashing merrily
By summer breezes softly fann'd:
I only found a stretch of grey
With raindrops falling all the day.

I thought to dwell in pleasant halls
With perfect people, wondrous clad:
Choice viands, and the drink that falls
From full press'd grapes that Bacchus had:
Dull folks prowl round in disarray—
And we have mutton every day.

I thought to find the golden key
To open Pleasure's bolted door;
To live the life that's full and free,
In tune with Nature on the shore:
Yet one thing's greater than I thought—
The bill the Tweeny Maid's just brought.

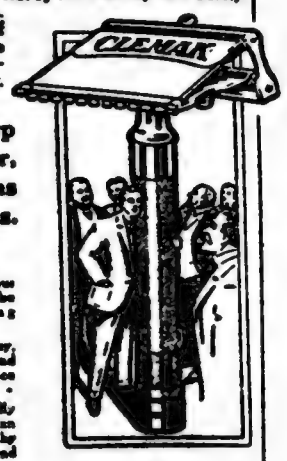
HERBERT E. HALL.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

The Clemak Safety Razor—at 5s.—is Made as Well and Shaves as Well as any Guinea Safety Razor.

. . . Note how carefully it is made—the perfection of every detail—its beautiful finish. Look at the blade, feel its keen cutting edge. No other blade could shave your beard more easily than that.

. . . Now put the CLEMAK side by side with any other Safety Razor offered at a Guinea. You will then see for yourself that it is in every way the equal of the other Razor—and costs you 16/- less to buy. Then why pay a guinea?



The only way to keep a razor sharp is to strop it. To buy a safety razor, and throw dull blades away, means a continuous expense for new blades.

The CLEMAK avoids all this.

The Clemak Stropping Machine, price 2/6 . . . Why not let your COMING HOLIDAY be free from shaving troubles?

. . . The barber is busy, so buy a Clemak and save yourself annoyance and waste of time.

. . . The Clemak Razor is undoubtedly the best shaving investment you can possibly make, and by its trustworthy and reliable service will prove a friend for life. . . . Buy one to-day.

. . . The Clemak Safety Razor and the Clemak Stropper is a perfect Shaving Combination. They cost together 5s. 6d. and last a lifetime. Why pay a guinea?

COMPLETION CASE, 12 Blades, Stropping Machine, and Strop, 10/6.

OF ALL STORES, CUTLERS, &c.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CHAUFFEUR or qualify for any position in the Motor Industry?

If so we advise you to apply AT ONCE to the British Motor Industry's training centre. POPULAR COURSE of unlimited practical instruction in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism and running repairs on the road until you state in writing that you are satisfied and proficient. Lowest inclusive Fee. Highest Standard training. This Course entitles you to the certificate and free introduction to positions through the B.S.M. Employment Department licensed LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL. No extra Charges. Call or send a postcard for free prospectus (J).

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING,
Coventry House, 5, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.

MEN OF SPECIAL ABILITY

are the kind of men we want—men whose Special Knowledge or Special Aptitude fits them to occupy Responsible Positions in technical, Clerical Organising or Travelling Capacities. We have upon our lists a large number of positions carrying salaries of from £160 to £1,000 a year—but positions which can only be filled by really High Grade Men. If you are such a man, write us to-day—or call.

HAPGOODS Ltd., Employment Experts, 167-8 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

A.B.C. GUIDE TO STOCK EXCHANGE

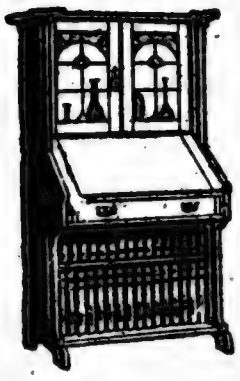
(44th Edition 1913).

Stock Exchange Operations thoroughly explained, also Call Options. How to open an account with limited risk. How to avoid Brokers' Commissions. Contains Highest and Lowest Sales for last 15 years. Gratis from Publishers—

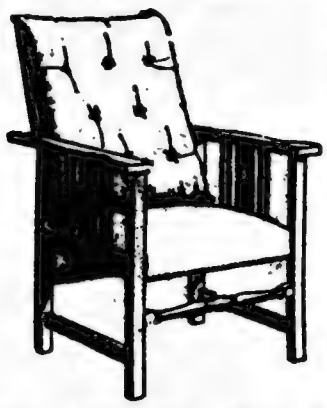
FARROW, GRAHAM & CO.,
1, Bank Street, Royal Exchange, Manchester.

COME Animated Pictures. Steady men wanted to learn Bioscope operating. The growing business. For particulars, Call **OVER** or Write. (Please mention this journal.) Manager, The British Bioscope School. **HERE.**

5 (Five), New Oxford Street, W.C.



Quaint Oak Bureau with fall front. The top part is fitted with leaded light glass doors.
£2 17s. 6d.



Oak Adjustable Chair of charming design covered in tapestry.
£1 6s. 6d.

Special Department for Second-hand Furniture.

It's because I am a business man

that I go to the "Midland" Furnishing Co. whenever I want anything for my house, whether it's a whole new suite, or just a piece of plate, or linen, or china. I want the best value for every penny I spend; and at the "Midland" I get it. For as the "Midland" are actual manufacturers, they save the usual intermediate profit and are enabled to sell at the lowest prices compatible with real sterling quality. That's why

Money buys more at the "Midland."

They charge nothing for credit, either—no deposit, no interest—nothing but the prices plainly marked on every article. And if the purchaser who avails himself of their Ideal Terms should die **all the furniture goes to the wife without further payment.** That is to say, you can furnish out of income and practically insure your life meanwhile, yet without spending a penny on premiums. And the "Midland" also **insures the furniture against fire** free of charge.

Fumed Oak Bureau 2 ft. 2in. wide, 3 ft. 6 in. high, 9 in. deep. Exceptional value.
£1 1s. 0d.

Well-upholstered Divan Easy Chair, with spring edge seat. Covered in Rexine. Price
£2 19s. 6d.

Railway Fares Paid.

Customers' fares to town paid on orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.

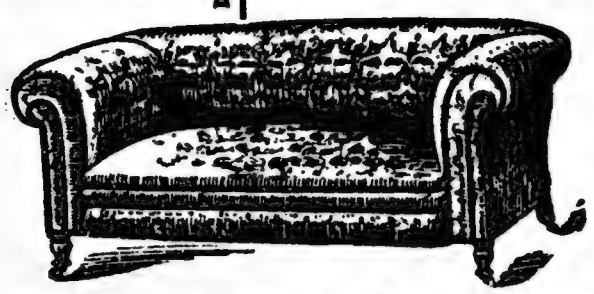
Terms.

Worth.	Per month.
£10 ...	£0 6 0
£20 ...	0 11 0
£30 ...	0 17 0
£40 ...	1 5 0
£50 ...	1 8 0
£100 ...	2 5 0
£200 ...	4 10 0
£500 ...	11 5 0

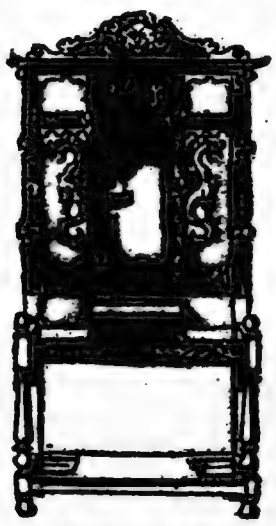
Larger amounts pro rata.

10% additional Discount for Cash.

Well-made Bedroom Suite in Oak, handsomely designed. A typical example of "Midland" value. With 2 rush-seated chairs.
£6 6s. 0d.



Well-upholstered Chesterfield Settee, with or without drop ends as desired. Thoroughly well sprung and covered with various shades of art tapestry.
£4 14s. 6d.



Carved Oak Hall Stand, with bevelled plate. This is polished a rich antique brown, 3 ft. wide, 6 ft. high, 1 ft. deep.
£2 5s. 0d.

A fascinating Illustrated Book of Furniture FREE.

If you cannot call in person, send a postcard with your full name and address to the Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd. We will send you by return our Book of Furniture, richly illustrated with over 1,000 photographs and coloured plates.

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Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

London's Leading Furnishers,

15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station, 1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

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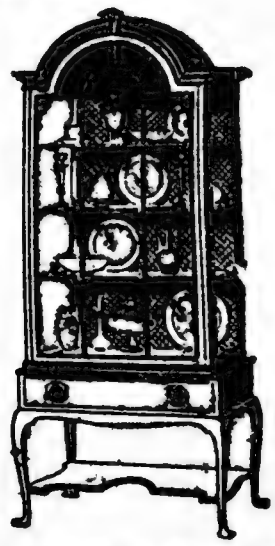

A charming mahogany China Cabinet in Queen Anne style, with handsome shaped top and serpentine fronted shelves. Lined with silk. 6 ft. 3 in. high, 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 1 ft. 4 in. deep.
£10 10s. 0d.

CITY NOTES

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter Box, see page* 320.]

The Stock Markets.

After all, the holiday season has told its tale on the Stock Markets, and there is no doubt that we shall have to wait for any revival in business until the holiday makers return. In the meantime, the most reassuring development is the further improvement in the monetary outlook which has at last affected discount rates, three months' Bills being taken down to 3⅞ per cent., with the result that Consols have developed distinct strength. By the way, the firmness of the premier security effectually disposes of the fear of fresh trouble in the Balkans, the only other trouble which is worrying the markets being the friction between Mexico and the United States. Financial chaos prevails in Mexico, and the whole group of Mexican securities is suffering severely as the result. The Mexican exchange has fallen to 19d. per dollar, and it is evident that only a big Mexican Government loan can restore the exchange to its proper level. In the meantime, the Mexican Railway dividend outlook appears doubtful. The Canadian Railway division is in an agitated condition, there being a recurrence of rumours of severe damage to the crops by hail and rainstorms. The labour bogey has been trotted out again in the case of Home Rails, but the real reason of the decline seems to be profit taking on the part of professionals in connection with the settlement. The bears of rubber shares have proved one too many for the bulls, who wanted to hoist Rubber Trust shares to 7s. 6d. prem. but could not get them above 6s. 3d. prem., and now they are quoted at about half that price. In order to launch the new issue, they must continue to support the market. In the meantime, all manner of devices are suggested for discovering new uses of rubber. Some irregularity has developed in Oil shares, but at the same time there is always some development to keep the ball rolling. Just now Kern River are the latest favourite, in connection with the suggested absorption of the company by the Shell Transport and talk of a dividend on the shares. Then there are North Caucasians, which are being bulled, but owing to the heavy options held by the Shell people at very much lower prices, this is a dangerous market to dabble in. At the same time, there is every prospect of an active and rising market in Oil shares in the Autumn. Tin shares have so far disappointed expectations, notwithstanding all the rumours about rains in Nigeria, and the expected larger outputs.

New Central Omnibus Company.

We commented last January upon the arrangement then being effected by this concern with the London General Omnibus Co. A dispute has already arisen between them as to the interpretation of the agreement embodying the terms of the arrangement. This was to be expected, and shareholders have only themselves to blame for not listening to the counsels of those who advised them not to give their directors a blank power of attorney in the matter. More is likely to be heard of the dispute.

Absolutely the Limit.

We refuse to believe that, at any time and in any conceivable circumstances, a more ludicrous effort at company-promoting can be found than that put forward by Mr. John William Pearce, of Morecambe. He is forming his business as Public Works Contractor into a joint-stock company under the title J. W. Pearce and Co., Limited, with a capital of £20,000, and the only figures he gives are the following: For the two years and two months ending June 7th last, his turnover was £26,416, and the net profits £3,822! Upon these figures, and because he has two contracts running (which may, of course, prove unprofitable) he is to receive £6,000 (of which £4,500 is for goodwill and the balance for some unspecified and apparently not valued plant, machinery, etc.) as to £3,500 in shares and as to £2,500 in cash, and for ten years he is to receive £600 a year as managing director, plus 10 per cent. on the net profits. What Mr. Pearce's friends think of the proposition is evidenced by the fact that they have stipulated for a commission of 7½ per cent. for underwriting 8,000 of the 10,000 6 per cent. preference shares offered for subscription. Our Morecambe friends should let them keep the paper. There is a good deal of "Pearce" about the company, but what about "Plenty"?

Cinema Promotions.

On the top of statistics from Somerset House showing that cinema companies are issuing mortgages and charges wholesale over their assets and that many of them are in the hands of Receivers for debenture-holders, comes the prospectus of the Cinema Promotions and General Development Co. The chief objects of the concern are indicated in its title, but its principal business will be "to promote public joint-stock companies for the purpose of building palatial Cinema Theatres in the most densely populated districts of Great Britain." The capital is fixed at £15,000, and 9,950 ordinary shares of £1 are offered by the three directors, who, when not engaged in promoting promoting-companies are respectively an accountant, a gentleman who is a member of the Royal Borough of Kensington Committee, National Reserve, Kensington Battalion, and a Colour Cinematograph Expert. The prospectus, which is somewhat quaint in many ways, introduces the personal note in the following paragraph: "Arrangements are now being made by influential companies for a market to be opened on the London Stock Exchange, and there is little doubt that *we shall witness*" (who are the 'we'?) at an early date active business in this new market." We had almost forgotten to state that the company which is to promote companies is, itself, being promoted by a syndicate in which two of its directors are interested to the extent of two-fifths each. The two directors in question are the accountant and the Colour Cinematograph Expert, Mr. W. V. T. Hopes and Mr. Theodore Frank Newman. Major M. H. Stack, V.D., who completes the trio on the new company, is evdently drawn in to lend some "verisimilitude to an otherwise bad and unconvincing" prospectus.

To O.U.S.C.s Only.

Mr. L. Sydenham, late Secretary and Assistant Bursar of the United Services College, Westward Ho! having gone down to the City to make chips, still retains a warm corner in his heart for O.U.S.C.s (whoever they may be) and evidently holds them in grateful remembrance. Recently, he invited them to embrace the opportunity of qualifying as shareholders in the Malabar Estates and Planting Co., but, alas, many of them did not reciprocate. So Mr. Sydenham —determined to give them another chance as he "cannot obtain any more of these particular shares, except at a premium"—is offering to put them into another good thing, a "parent" concern having a capital of £5,000, yclept the Coconut Development and Finance Corporation, of which he forwards a so-called prospectus giving "particulars for private information only." Particulars as to the coconut industry are given in plenty, but nothing concerning the company worth noting. In his circular, which is addressed to members of the United Service Club, Mr. Sydenham states that the directors have entered into a contract with someone (name not given) for the supply of 10,000,000 cocoanuts per annum, and adds, "He is now on his way out to arrange for delivery of the nuts." Meanwhile, Mr. Sydenham is engaged in London in gathering the "Colonels."

"Eagle" Insurance Company.

Our recent brief announcement that negotiations between the "Eagle" and the "Yorkshire" had been broken off, has been received with general satisfaction. That the "Eagle" is held in high estimation, notwithstanding the passing of the bonus recently, is undeniable, and it would have been regarded as a strange corollary of events had the company—which itself in years gone by has taken over several companies—succumbed. Amalgamations and absorptions, unless good reasons to the contrary can be given, should be opposed on the ground that monopolies where they relate to insurance or banks militate against the spirit of true progress, and are injurious to the best interests of the public. All that remains now is to wish the "Eagle" *bon voyage*, and to express the hope that by zealous and enterprising management, and the co-operation of all the members, a new era of business increase may set in, to the advantage of the company and its insurers alike

Exit Delaney.

We understand from Messrs. Heywood and Ram, solicitors, of Outer Temple, that they have obtained a Receiving Order in Bankruptcy against William Elliott Delaney (trading as the Systematic Investment Company) on behalf of one of its dupes. It is believed that Delaney has gone out of the country, and we doubt very much whether he has left anything behind.

£1,500 and Free Football Season Tickets. Final Coupon this week.

THE HORRORS OF NEURASTHENIA.

A 9 years victim tells how she longed to die. Nerves completely wrecked but cured by

DR. CASSELL'S TABLETS.

A thoroughly tested and proved remedy for Neurasthenia and all run-down conditions, is now available in Dr Cassell's Tablets. As an example of their truly amazing power we quote the following typical case. A Mrs. Hester Rogers, of 38, Lawrence Hill, Bristol, says of Dr. Cassell's Tablets: "After operation for cataract on both eyes my nerves seemed to become completely wrecked. I could not venture out, I could not do anything. I was more like a machine than a living being. I never spoke. I really wanted to die, and would have taken poison if I could have got it, my feelings were terrible. And to add to my suffering I had acute indigestion, and constipation so obstinate that I had to take the strongest purgatives the chemist could supply. I spent pounds on doctors, but nothing did me any good till I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets. I was amazed to find after four bottles that I felt better. Soon I could go out, and so it went on till now I am as well as ever in my life."

Mrs. Rogers, Bristol.

Dr. Cassell's Tablets act more brilliantly than any other medicine known in cases of Nervous Breakdown, Anæmia, Debility, Sleeplessness, Nerve Pains, Heart Weakness, Kidney and Stomach Disorders, Children's Weakness, Spinal and Nerve Paralysis, and general body fatigue, brain fag, and all run-down conditions. Send 2d. to-day to Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., (Box A24), Chester Road, Manchester, for a free sample. All Chemists sell Dr. Cassell's Tablets at 10½d., 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d.

VITALITY OF YOUTH

FOR MEN WHO HAVE LOST IT.

The force that runs the human machine is stored in the nerves. This nervous energy, as it is called, is only another name for electricity.

If any organ of your body is weak and inactive, it means that the nerves which control it lack power. This must be restored before the affected part can perform its proper functions. It does no good to take drugs for such a condition as this. You can only effect a cure by replacing the energy that has been lost. Drugs are poisons—electricity is life.

Saturate your nerves with a glowing current from the "Ajax" Body Battery for an hour each day. The weak organs will respond to its influence in the same way that an electric motor starts whirling as soon as the power is turned on.

The "Ajax" is a self-charged body battery which generates a steady, unbroken stream of galvanic electricity, and infuses it into the nerves in just the right volume. It builds up vitality and strength, and cures all ailments resulting from a debilitated state of the nerves and vital organs.

Men who suffer from failing vitality, debility, or any of the usual weaknesses, will find that the "Ajax" Body Battery, together with electric suspensory attachment, will quickly put them in good condition.

It is a natural remedy, and those who have used it will tell you that it does all we claim for it.

THIS IS FREE

We'll send you our free book, closely sealed, which tells all about the battery, how it cures and what it does. This book is illustrated, and explains many things you should know about the cause and cure of disease. If you want to be the man Nature intended you to be send for the book at once. We have a book for women also.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE

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The Strong Search Light of Publicity

reveals no weakness in our methods. These are the stones on which we have built success: Honesty of purpose, absolute efficiency, undoubted fairness, prompt fulfilment of obligations. Investigation by the press has always been welcomed. Read carefully the following comments:

The Editor of "JOHN BULL" on Feb. 1st stated:—

"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and above-board."

The "MIRROR OF LIFE" on June 7th stated:—

"We can certify as to the equitable way in which they are carried out, and of the fairness in every particular of Mr. H. Diamond's sweepstakes."

WINNER OF £1,000:

Mr. R. P. Weeks, 50, Bailey Street, Brynmawr, Brecon, S. Wales.

WINNERS OF £500:

E. M. Hughes, Tan-Lan, Bethesda, N. Wales.
C. J. Goulter, 1, St. George's Road, Kingston Hill.
W. Hargrave, Royal Marine Infirmary, Deal.
J. J. Richards, 9, Shannon Grove, Brixton, S.W.
A. B. Wyatt, 3, Palmer Road, Enfield, Middlesex.
W. H. Blackshaw, The Lea, Denham, Bucks.
C. Colchin, Junr., Woolpack Inn, Iwade, Kent.
F. Smith, 241, High Street, Porth, Glam.
T. Phillips, 34, The Park, Treharris.
W. H. Cowdery, Forester's Arms, Coxgreen, Maidenhead. [Manchester.
B. Ainley, 10, Hamilton Street, Old Trafford,

WINNER OF £200:

C. M. Davies, Whitby House, Priory Hill, Milford Haven.

STEWARDS CUP 1913

WINNER OF £500
E. M. Hughes, Tan-Lan, Bethesda, N. Wales.

WINNER OF £100
W. C. Turtle, Knights, *Via* Germiston, Transvaal.

WINNER OF £50
E. Rossiter, 40, Ferntower Road, Newington Green, London, N.

H·DIAMOND

LUCERNE SWITZERLAND

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JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.—H. K. S. (Chesterfield).—We understand it is not desired that there should be active market dealings until the boring operations now being carried out have demonstrated the presence of oil—or any other minerals—in payable quantities.

Chibnall's Bakery.—L. C. (Dulwich).—We understand that the causes which led to the great reduction in the dividend were of an exceptional character, but have no recent information as to the present year's business. We do not advise you to sell at present.

Hatton, Morris and Co.—C. G. (Dronfield).—If you refer to the Galician Standard Oil Mining Co., we regard it as a promising speculative investment.

British Freehold Investments.—Perplexed.—The worst of this kind of Company is that it is very chary of publishing Balance-Sheets, etc., or other information which would enable one to judge of its progress. If this should meet the eye of the Secretary of the Company, perhaps he will oblige.

Nakamun Asphalt and Oil.—H. M. (Glamorgan).—One does not usually look for financial guidance to a city like Exeter, however estimable it may be in other respects, and we urge you not to interest yourself in this concern, which is quite unknown here. For the shares there is no market, nor ever likely to be. The firm in question make glowing statements with regard to the prospects of the Company, but who will guarantee that these anticipations will be even approximately fulfilled?

Amal. Props.—Widow Acgton.—It would be advisable to take up the shares in the new Company, which is expected to retrieve its fortunes after the reconstruction.

Western Canada Lands.—Salop.—For a long time past we have been warning our readers to beware of certain classes of Canadian investments, and have more particularly deprecated the excessive land boom. The latter has now petered out, and the various Companies, including the Western Canada, are feeling the pinch. It might now be worth while holding the shares for a recovery, but it will evidently be a long time, if ever, before they reach your price again.

New Zealand Water Stock.—W. H. (Blackburn).—The New Zealand Government stock is, of course, a first-class holding of the kind. As regards the Water Board investment, you might, as suggested, make the proposed exchange, although we cannot say that Canadian Northern notes are any special favourites of ours. However, they are, at any rate, well secured.

Soowin Concessions.—Teacher.—This concern evidently prefers to hide its light under a bushel, and as no information is to be gleaned concerning it, we do not advise an investment.

Black Seas.—E. L. L. (Teignmouth).—The Maikop returns are now improving, and it should be worth while holding the shares for a recovery. As regards the Rubber Company this has proved a great disappointment, and the concern is now defunct.

Service Investment Society.—Mashie.—In the first place such comparatively high rates of interest are not compatible with safety. In the second, such a concern, which invites deposits, should make a full statement of its assets, etc. The society is not even mentioned in the usual books of reference, and no reliable information is available to enable us to judge of its position and prospects. In all the circumstances we do not advise deposits with it.

Galician Oil Lands and Royalties Trust.—S. H. (Bradford) and J. H. (Huntingdon).—From the latest information which reaches us, we are of opinion that the undertaking has considerable prospects of success.

Loan.—H. C. R. (Strand).—Your best course is to apply to the John Bull Bank, Old Jewry, E.C., giving them full particulars of your position.

Panama Bonds.—Mrs. B. (Sheffield).—You can obtain full particulars from Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., of 10, Rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris, who are a firm of standing and stability, and the leading dealers in this class of security.

Moribund Concerns.—W. J. K. (Manchester).—Your list of holdings is a remarkable one in view of the fact that out of the fifteen companies mentioned not one is in evidence now, all being dead or moribund. As a consequence, the shares are all worthless.

Monarch Consolidated.—E. J. B. (Camden Town).—This is one of those numerous dubious American mining concerns which have already cost the British investor so dear. We strongly advise you and your friend not to send any more money, and cut your loss. You will, in the circumstances, forfeit your present holding, but that will be no real loss, as the concern seems to be only kept alive for the purpose of extracting further monies from the pockets of its unfortunate shareholders.

Southern Pacifics.—B. P. S. (Birmingham).—We do not see any reason for selling Great Westerns or Midland Deferred; but if you are still determined to make an exchange, Southern Pacifics would be as good as any in the American market, always provided that you are prepared to run the risks attendant upon investment in volatile stocks of this kind.

Bucknall Lines.—A. McN. (Manchester).—There is no reason why you should not accede to the amalgamation. In any case the majority of the shareholders have done so, so that there is no reason for you to "plough a lonely furrow."

Law Car and General.—L. E. W. (Longton).—We note that you are an "A" shareholder who has not been settled with, and, as we have previously advised other correspondents, you should communicate with Messrs. Digby, Brown and Co., 128, Hope Street, Glasgow, who made the offer to the "A" shareholders. The solicitors in the action brought against the directors were Messrs. Morse, Hewitt and Co., 37, Walbrook, E.C., of whom you might also make enquiries.

Omnium Insurance Co. (In liquidation).—R. J. (Glasgow).—This ill-fated concern is being wound up voluntarily, and you must await the issue of the Statement of Affairs by the Liquidator before you can ascertain the amount of the heavy losses which have been sustained, and to what extent (if any) a saving has been effected out of the wreckage for the benefit of the creditors and shareholders.

Universal Insurance Co. (In liquidation).—J. T. (Swansea).—We have not been supplied with a copy of the Liquidator's report, and in these circumstances we should recommend you to communicate with him again, as he may now be in a position to tell you the precise position of affairs.

Midland Railway Friendly Society.—F. W. (Steeple Morton).—The objects of the Society include relief and maintenance to members during sickness or other infirmity, whether bodily or mentally, or in case of accident, medical attendance, and an allowance to members in old age, and for insuring money to be paid on the death of members, their first wives or widows. You appear to have joined in 1875, and, as we understand the position, you met with an accident in 1901; and you are under the impression that you are being deprived of the benefits for which you originally joined in consequence of your further contributions having been refused on the introduction of the National Insurance Act. The Secretary, however, informs you that although you are not required to pay any further contributions after July 11, 1912, you are not expelled from the Society, but share with the other old members in the accumulated funds when sick, 6s. per week for 13 weeks, 7s. for the next 13 weeks, whilst at death £12 will be paid, and £5 for wife. You are now 62 years of age, and you have been resting under the impression that on attaining the age of 65 you would receive 8s. 3d. per week as a Superannuation allowance, and you cannot understand the changes which have been made through the introduction of the State Insurance. You seem to think that you will only now receive at the rate of 1s. 3d. per week instead of 8s. 3d. We do not suppose that the Midland Railway Company, under whose auspices the Friendly Society is run, would treat any of the old members unfairly, and if you are not satisfied with the Secretary's ruling, you have the right to bring your case under the notice of the Managing Committee for their consideration. Why not do this?

Eagle Insurance Co.—Castle.—Subject to skilful management and a progressive policy being adopted, the shares are likely to improve in value. You must bear in mind, however, that there is an uncalled liability of £4 10s. per share in respect of each £5 share, and although this balance can only be called up in the event of liquidation the shareholders remain liable. The report of the last quinquennium, issued in March, showed that large amounts had been written off for depreciation, and that the writing down has been to place the investments on a firm footing. This, of course, is all in favour of the Company so far as future profits are concerned.

Metropolitan Life Assurance Society.—S. E. (Sussex).—This society, which was established in the year 1835, does not employ agents, and consequently conducts its business at a low ratio of expenses to income. Its progress is necessarily slow, but for the special purpose you have in view we see no objection to your completing the assurance.

Royal London Mutual Insurance Society.—W. M. S. (Bristol).—The revelations which have been made to us in connection with the trafficking in insurance books satisfy us that the system is highly demoralising and dangerous and should be made illegal. We are amazed that the Royal London should countenance such a system, which involves purchasing agents in debt by reason of their being financed by the "Central Investment Company," which grants loans at a high rate of interest. The interest being added in advance is also an iniquitous and objectionable practice. Agents who obtain these loans and get into difficulties through inability to keep up the weekly repayments, should remember that the outstanding balance becomes due and payable immediately, and the money-lending society is entitled to sue. This is what has happened in your case. You have been served with a Writ at the instance of the Central Investment Company, whose habitation is at Royal London House, and you and your sureties are being sued for the balance of £84 18s. 6d., in respect of an amount due originally under promissory note of £124 8s. But you must remember that the Royal London will repudiate any responsibility for the transactions which you had with the agent who sold you the book. This is one of our strong grounds of complaint. If you can prove the statements contained in your letter, we think you could not only have the action set aside but could also claim the return of the monies you have paid, on the ground that you were induced to purchase by the representations of the Society's local officer, who must be held to be the agent of the Society in relation to the transaction, unless it can be shown that he was acting outside the scope of his instructions. You had better instruct a solicitor.

INSURANCE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the enormous number of enquiries we receive on Insurance matters, our readers will appreciate the difficulty which confronts us in giving prompt replies. Indeed, the question has become so great that we have decided to depart from the rule we have hitherto observed of replying only through this column, and to answer by post. Correspondents, therefore, who fail to find replies to their enquiries on this page may expect to hear from us by letter with as little delay as possible.

Result of Our Fifth Cricket Contest. See page 293 for Winners.

SMALLMAN & TERRY'S ST. LEGER DRAW (£6,000 IN PRIZES.)

£2,000 the Winner, £1,000 the 2nd Horse, £500 the 3rd Horse, £250 the 4th Horse, and £750 for Runners other than the first four. £1,000 for non-starters. Extra Cash Prizes: 100 of £3 each, and 200 of £1 each.

These are the prizes offered by Messrs. SMALLMAN & TERRY in their St. Leger Sweepstake, the draw for which took place at Geneva, on Saturday, the 23rd August, in the presence of "John Bull's" Special Representative, who personally drew the prizes, and thoroughly satisfied himself that everything was straightforward and aboveboard. The Horses entered were drawn by the tickets bearing the Serie Letter and Number placed opposite.

"John Bull's" Representative was, as usual, afforded every opportunity of examining all sweep documents, &c., by Messrs. Smallman & Terry, whose well-known character for straight dealing and prompt settlements has gained for them such a prominent position in the world of sport.

RESULT OF DRAW.

Series Nos. & Horses.	Name and Address of Ticketholders.
A 00086 Coligny	"Mutual, Bolton" (*nom de plume*).
A 00712 Jewel of Asia	Seels, G. M., 16, Beverley Road, New Malden.
A 11311 Sunetoi	Cornford, F., Station Road, Hurst Green, Sussex.
A 13155 Poulette	Haynes, E., 14, Floating Bridge Rd., Southampton.
A 14450 Irishman	Cruickshanks, S., 5, Limes Place, Preston St., Faversham
A 25946 Weldam	Blackmore, W., 12, Brook Street, Cardiff.
A 31431 On Ferme	Taafe, J., 11a, Risborough St., Union St., Southwark.
A 37011 St. Begoe	Woodhouse, E. J., Ashley Moor, Orleton, R.S.O.
A 47847 Brush By	Mrs. Pickering, 48, Janet St., Wavertree Rd., Liverpool.
A 50218 Halos	Moore, G., 2, Lee Street, Haggerston, London.
A 50820 Hornbeam	Hill, Jas., 11, Marshall Street, Newland Av., Hull.
B 18403 Moins Cinq	Best, H., 54, High Street, Cleethorpes.
B 30244 Petroline	Entwistle, Wm., 213, Douglas Road, Parkwood Springs, Sheffield.
B 30605 Chief's Right	Woollett, W., Office Row, Barrington, Bedlington.
B 32531 Marietta	Iball, E., 16, Victoria Road, Ebbw Vale.
B 49902 Golden Nugget	Turner, Alex., 118, Ristalrig Road, Edinburgh.
B 53721 Minster Bell	Brown, G., High Ghyllhead Farm, Moresby, Whitehaven.
C 03719 Heather Mixture	Johnson, W. H., 26, East Street, Barking.
C 18850 Laudes	Barton, P., Old School, Winstanley, Orrell, Wigan.
C 28300 Oneck Queen	Cooper, Wm., 36, Polmaise Street, Blaydon.
C 37834 Gallice	Page, V., Mess 25, H.M.S. *Orion*, c.o. G.P.O.
C 53766 Kingsborough	Boardman, J. M., 100, Preston Street, Fleetwood.
C 57421 General Trot	Pearson, Chas., 10, Sunderland Terr., Ulverston.
D 00402 Celada	Fletcher, D., 1, Corsey Road, Bentley, Doncaster.
D 03190 Birlingham	Carter, J. G., Garrison Military Police, Strensall Camp.
D 15375 Day Comet	Barratt, G., 15, Kenloe Road, Tooting, S.W.
D 22029 Barilla	Hadaway, W., 1, D. Block, Vine Street Buildings, Tooley Street, Bermondsey.
D 23414 Denver	Hunt, C. E., Jackson Street, Stretford.
D 25815 Mrs. Sparkes	Thomas, J.O., 162, Old Castle Road, Llanelly.
D 48169 Spearman	Lacey, I. S., 15, Brentford Rd., Cross Roads, P.O Jamaica.
D 59821 Crown Point	Carey, M., 81, Dame Street, Dublin.
E 37245 Two and Six II.	Rees, C. E., 45, Sea View Terrace, Swansea.
E 44450 Hungerford	Nutt, Wm., 51, Victoria Road West, Hebburn.
E 49890 Moonbeam 4th	Baird, J., 249, York Street, Belfast.
E 52031 Earldom	Shaw, Wm., 12, Connaught Road, Margate.
E 55691 Mowedale	Tillbrook, A., 483, Cambridge Road, London.
F 00230 Queen's Man	Colbridge, W. M., 5, The Avenue, Melrose Street, Anlaby Road, Hull.
F 00614 Miramichi	Attwood, Hy., 3, Llewellyn St., Blaenewm, Treherbert.
F 00800 Cavour	Birkett, Jas., Marsh Green, Wigan.
F 00884 Seremond	Priddle, Ed., 41, Wordsworth Road, Small Heath.
F 01318 Eileen Asthore	Locke, Jas., 7, Willow Street, Chingford.
F 03772 Nassau	Harrison, F. A., 7, Percy Terrace, Leamington.
F 26107 Roseworthy	Marsden A. Beechwood, Cwmlladron, Gorseinon.
F 26920 Florisant	Barnes, D. W., Silver Bank, Coniston, Lancs.
F 40507 Rock View	Capstick, E., 4, Hopwood St., King St., Salford.
F 41324 Morowy	Hampton, A., 69, Westward Street, Middlesborough.
F 48877 Thory	Lester, C., 11, Alfred St., Gilfach, Bargoed.
F 52264 Lowland Lady	Kewen, Hy., 15, Sixth Row, Ashington.
G 00799 Lady Ailsa	Malone, G., 8, Victor Road, Windsor.
G 16567 Umbra	Struthers, A., 2, Alfriston Rd., West Side, Clapham Common, S.W.
G 25412 Laomedon	Capern, P. G., Oakdene, Hall Lane, Chingford.
G 43836 The Gage	Buckles, J., 48, Derby Road, Chesterfield.
G 44272 Peachick	Brown, Mr., 41, Wilson Road, Reading.
G 52080 Augur	Gibson, Fred, 316, Rochdale Road, Oldham.
G 52629 Flitcham	Whitehead, J. A., 35, Melbourne Place, North Berwick.
H 00643 Halifax	Cox, J., 4, Farady Street, Holderness, Road, Hull.
H 04053 Prince Christian	Whitehead, G. W., Staddlethorpe S.O.
H 22139 Frieze	Gilbert, A., 12, St. Patrick's Road, Coventry.
H 29112 Aghdoe	Barker, A. G., 54, Fornham Rd., Bury St. Edmunds.
H 30573 Willy Nilly	Gale, R., Bucknalls, Watford.
H 40290 Voltaire	Hodgson, J., 68, Foremans Row, Seaton Delavel.
H 49350 Abbots Moss	Whitburn, Mr., Dawslone, Windermere.
H 43635 Young Pegasus	Callaghan, R., c.o. Mrs. Belcher, 13, High Street, Newport, I.O.W.
H 55378 Polyglot	Bowden, R., Mill Street, Rideford.
J 03093 Sailor Collar	McArthur, G., 19, Kelvin Street, Glasgow.
J 04823 Radish	Hunt, F. G., 1c, Reynold's Road, Peckham Rye, S.E.
J 10751 Knight's Key	Blandford, J. H., Farnboro' Hill, Farnboro'.
J 17402 Pendragon	Cunniffe, J., 17, Lacey Street, Widnes.
J 30787 Novolock	Stephenson, J. R., West End, Gt. Broughton, Cockermouth.
K 00499 Auburn Hill	Watling, Geo., H.M.S. *Foxhound*, c.o. G.P.O.
K 00542 Rabble	Godwin, Wm., Hill Brow, Mount Pleasant, Newport, I.O.W.
K 12910 Chang	Rowlinson, L., 22, Ambrose Street, Openshaw.
K 16689 Zaandam	Webb, E. A., 3, Purbrook Road, Fratton, Portsmouth.
K 28761 Rock Flint	Cruickshank, W., The Kennels, Shotley Bdge, Co. Durham
K 28769 Ballykisteen	Cruickshank, W., The Kennels, Shotley Bdge, Co. Durham
K 32521 Kilrock	Routledge, Jas., 6, Holywell Sq., Backworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
K 46066 Red Ruff	Marsh, Jas., 16, West View, Earsdon, Northumberland.
K 55956 Vauban	Isplady, Miss D., Locomotive Inn, St. Peter's, Byker
L 06472 Bit o' Rye	Errington, R., Keeper's Cottages, Elemore Dene, Durham.
L 18313 Claque	Griffin, G., 65, Wellington Street, Castleford.
L 19336 Huntingtower	Joyce, W. B., c.o. S.Y. *Jolaire*, Broadford, Isle of Skye.
L 26750 Aldegond	Wilson, J., Gas Meter Works, Coventry.
L 41248 Radio	Eastwood, T., 235, Stony Stanton Road, Coventry.
L 45101 The Field	Biffin, Thos., 114, Ladywood Road, Birmingham.
L 45724 Gomez	Cant, Alf, 65, Clarendon Street, St. Pancras, N.W.
M 02059 Simon the Jester	Whelan, P., H.M.S. *Spitfire*, Sto. Mess 7. c.o. G.P.O.
M 08556 Night Hawk	Wilson, Mrs. A., 25, Station Road, New Seaham.
M 04049 Quill	Owen, J. G., 27, The Grove, Aberfan, Merthyr Vale.
M 16553 Craganour	Telfer, Jas., Ferney Bed., Acklington.
M 33932 Monisima	Baker, E. E., West Street, Coggeshall.
M 47282 Gallymawfry	Bushnell, E., South Wingfield, near Alfreton.
M 49963 Louvois	McKinnis, J., c.o. Mr. Wilson, 21, Rye Terrace, Hexham-on-Tyne.
M 55458 Boyne 2nd	Davies, W. J., 8, Abbey Road, Port Talbot.
N 02479 Simonath	"Mutual, Bolton" (*nom de plume*).
N 08275 Rock Mint	Plowman, C. H., 63, Weelsby Street, Grimsby.
N 15906 Isolde	Smith, D., 32, York Road, Grays, Essex.
N 18405 Inveravon	Fort, Wm., 4, Gloucester Road, Boscombe.
N 19868 Magnifico	Stephenson, H., 54, Spring Bank, Scarborough.
N 42467 Slyboots	Connell, M., 32, Spring Bank Road, Chesterfield.
N 42661 Pilliwinki	Lancaster, Miss D., Saxon House, Waltham Gt. Grimsby.
N 42760 Amoy	Scholes, W., 135, Scar Lane, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield.
N 45263 Renoll	Coate, J., Rose Tree Farm, Southcoates Lane, Holderness Road, Hull.
O 00014 Cock of the Rock	Hunt, T., 9, Havelock Road, Ilford.
O 00923 Duke of York	Shellard, T., 120, Richmond Road, Alertillery.
O 15691 Ben Wyvis	Evans, J., 2, Williams Terr., Treharris.
O 16817 Anmer	Hardy, J., 3, Front Street, Shotton College.
O 22468 First Smoke	Williams, T. J., 11, Craig Road, Ynyshir, Rhondda.
O 38811 Mont Royal	Alkins, H., St. Mabyn, Gravelly Hill, Birmingham.
O 41401 Clodion	Sherratt, H., 178, West Park Street, Salford.
O 49950 Albion	Montgomery, Mrs. J., Station Bldgs, Dalkeith.
O 51927 Lundy	Wheeler, C., 17, Gibbon Road, Nunhead, S.E.
O 55373 Llanedyn	Jones, J., Brynamlwg, Cilfrew, Neath.
O 58531 Eugenia Burch	Thomas, F., Red Lion Hotel, Boston.
P 42231 Manzanita	Regan, A., P.O. Box 4, Mafeking, South Africa.
P 41484 Yellow Pearl	Biddulph, F., 26, Leacroft Road, Derby.
P 40836 Taslett	Still, A., Woodside, Horsforth, Leeds.
P 28087 Ramsgate	Bissett, J., 117, Coventry Dr., Dennistoun, Glasgow.
P 09337 Josh	Watt, D., 73, Potter Street, Willington Quay-on-Tyne.
Q 03414 Flora Hawthorn	Parkin, J., 40, Beresford Road, Liverpool, S.
Q 07918 Comparison	Brierley, A., 38, Brook Street, Mumps, Oldham.
Q 09765 Lourenco Marques	Blenkinsop, G. W., Woodside, Brampton Junc., Cumberland.
Q 10453 Curragh	Monck, S., 174, Bath Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.
Q 12603 Silent Knight	Robinson, J., Butcher, Walbottle, Newburn-on-Tyne.
Q 14991 Cantilever	Neligan, J. C., Middleton-in-Teesdale, Darlington.
Q 21020 Cratinus	McCabe, H., 32, King's Cross Street, Dublin.
Q 28459 Hecuba Filly	Lewis, J. P., Berthlwyd House, Treharris.
Q 33063 Indian God	Bell, R. J., 3, Alexandra Place, Annan.
Q 38893 Coracle	Hall, J. A., 44, Devonshire Street, Monkwearmouth.
Q 43148 Starboard Light	Crook, Mrs. A., 5, Water Street, W. Hartlepool.
Q 44640 Lord Belvoir	Hollingums, J., 53, Milton Road, Gravesend.
Q 47214 Normandy Boy	Bell, T., 51, Low Westwood, Hamsterley College.
Q 48064 Spean Bridge	West, H., 9, Norbury Crescent, Norbury.
Q 50172 Old Surrey	Martin, E. W., c.o. Mrs. Clay, Traffic Boarding House, Goold Adams Street, Bloemfontein, Transvaal.
Q 51927 Fluff	Molloy, K., The Temple, Dale Street, Liverpool.
Q 54247 Mocarz	White, T., 90, Quebec Road, Tilbury Dock.
R 14163 Ma'oona	Grant, F. A., 6, High Street, Winchester.
R 17826 L'Oiseau Lyre	Adams, A., 6, Maidstone Road, Lowestoft.
R 38452 Ruthe	Stubbs, A., 6, Beauchamp St., Shaw Heath, Stockport.
R 38457 Bictonia	Stubbs, J., 6, Beauchamp St., Shaw Heath.
R 44134 Denis Dear	Lawrence, A. E., 14, Helmsley St., West Hartlepool.
R 50256 Monmouth	Eyre, Mrs., 197, Beresford Street, Camberwell, S.E.
R 55274 Depeche	Carpenter, Miss F., High Street, Twyford, Winchester.
R 57377 Collante	Edwards, W., 8, Tyisha Row, Cwm Avon, Port Talbot.
S 26429 Marcoussis	Rendle, F., 59, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E.
S 30923 Queenwood C.	Cavey, C., 181, Burrage Road, Plumstead.
S 31761 Bachelor's Wedding	Hendley, E., 1d, Kingwood Road, Fulham, S.W.
S 36478 Orama	Carter, T., 20, Chaplin Street, Lincoln.
S 50521 Stormy Lad	Harries, J., 6, Bryn Terrace, Hengoed, Glam.
S 55041 Shogun	Richardson, H., 2, Marine Villas, Esplanade, Paignton.
T 01672 William of Orange	Howard, R., 8, Windmill Street, Leigh.
T 12068 Knight of Glim	Owens, B., 46, Devonshire Place, Everton.
T 20868 Porphyria	Bunkell, C. H., 323, Trinity Rd., Wandsworth Common.
T 27735 Middachten	Pell, G. M., 7, Low Pavement, Nottingham.
T 40003 Mosci Ksiaze	Wilson, W., Chaple St., Distington, Cumberland.
T 46788 Marshmallow	Stirrup, J., 70, Manchester Rd. West, Little Hulton.
T 56237 Trieste	Golledge, G., 30, Wilson St. North, Monkwearmouth.
U 14354 Arda	Moffatt, S. Band, 2nd Northamptons Regt., Malta.
U 18250 Catnip	Norris, D., 21, Whittingstall Road, Fulham, S.W.
U 25831 Meeting House	Waller, W., Sand end, near Whitby.
U 45292 Scintillator	Wilkinson, F., 186, Maria Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
U 59762 Angel on Horseback	Watson, J. P. K., Newtown House, Milton Street, Peterborough.
V 06171 Escalade F.	Parkinson, J. L., 5, Cross Macro Street, Pitsmoor.
V 06389 Equilibrium	Stuart W., P.O. Box 96, Bulawayo, Rhodesia.
V 11038 Joachimsthal	Saunders, B., 135, Ilan Rd., Abertridwr, near Cardiff
V 12706 Hippeastrum	Banks, R., 5, Nodder St., Parkgate, near Rotherham.
V 19435 Rapture	Pringle J., 3, Double Boyne St., Willington.
V 20728 Addenda	Harding, H., 45, McDonnell Road, Bargoed.
V 21718 Roche Noir	Jupp, J., Park House, Witton Gilbert.
V 24410 Haarlem	Rowcliffe, J. H., 65, Bridgefield Street, Rochdale.
V 31430 The Waggoner	Woodhead, J., 26, Furnival Street, Sheffield.
V 36010 White Magic	Jones, H., 51, Leyland Street, Harpurhey.
V 38031 Accolade	O'Connell, D., 97, St. Helen's Road, Swansea.
V 39193 Le Temeraire	Best, Mrs. A., Belsay Castle, Belsay, Northumberland.
W 13581 Furz	Roberts, D., Brodawel, Twyn Boli Garnant.
W 17345 Lalisa	Murray, W., 77, Cedar Grove, Liverpool.
W 19440 Scoltie	Glaister, S. H., Egremont, Cumberland.
W 20375 Flippant	Wright, W., 57, Union Street, Blyth.
W 22785 FitzRichard	Thomas, J., 55 Ingram Street, Wigan.
W 26332 Carlisle	Bertram G. 9, Office Row, New Lambton Fence House's
W 54194 Jameson	Ireland, F., Glendale 175, East Barnet Rd., New Barnet.
W 58929 Thorium	Hutchinson, T., Chapel Row, Eighton Banks, Gateshead.
X 01223 Glencairn	Harvey, F., Northaw, Potters Bar, Herts.
X 01550 Cabaret	Quick, F., 6, Southwick Road, Tranmere, Birkenhead
X 06316 Countess Zia	Barker, Mr., 5, Mill Lane Allerton, Bywater, Castleford
X 20697 Laoghaire	Palmer, Mrs. C., 7, De Beauvoir Crescent, Kingsland, N
X 29523 Victagon	Guthrie, J., 9, St3 James Square, Gateshead.
X 44252 Fortyfoot	Salterthwaite, Calderbidge, Cumberland.
X 44533 Agadir	Parsons, J., 299, Moorland Road, Splott, Cardiff.
X 59742 Orange	Franch, Mr., 2 (?), Maple Street, Throckley.
Y 01504 Orange Dance	Toner, G., 23, Hilberry Av., Tuebrook, Liverpool.
Y 03813 Diadumenos	Hardy, Mrs., 186, Sutherland Road, Pitsmoor.
Y 20184 Harry of Hereford	Fraser, W., Box 128, Galt P.O., Ontario, Canada.
Y 24467 Dogwood	Vaughan, E., 9, Wixley Road, Attercliffe.
Y 32776 Night Stick	Knight, T., 11, Harlich Street, Walton, Liverpool.
Z 01351 Golden Cloud	Dunnon, H., 207, Harrington Road, Workington.
Z 01355 Sondrio	Thomas, A., Moss Bay Hotel, Workington.
Z 01605 Jelly C.	Vare, A., 18, Railway Road, King's Lynn.
Z 05364 Game Hen C.	Slater, W., Seaton Burn, Front St., Northumberland.
Z 16219 Princess Dagmar	Fullar, F., Edmondsley, Durham.
Z 29449 Magog	Mitchell, Mrs., Lytchett Heath, near Poole.
Z 55660 Belford	Mayles, Mrs., 69, Shakespeare Avenue, Bath.
Z 59991 The Nun	Forster, D. B. 66, Northumberland Terr., Everton.

A complete list of winners, including £3 and £1 Cash Prizes, has been sent to all clients. A full list will also be published in the "SPORTING LIFE" of Saturday, August 30th.

SMALLMAN & TERRY, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.

"HAT TRICK" HALF-GUINEAS!

Our special offer of "Hat Trick" prizes for continuous merit is now running. To all competitors who succeed in winning a prize in EACH of ANY THREE CONSECUTIVE competitions, AFTER competition No. 47, we will award the sum of half-a-guinea. You can therefore commence THIS WEEK to do the "Hat Trick." These prizes must all have been awarded to one and the same person. All you have to do is to claim the half-guinea, and on verification it will be forwarded without delay. This is a distinct and additional prize-offer, and in no way affects competitors' chances of securing the £500 or any other of our weekly prizes

Second Prize £50

FIRST PRIZE £500

Third Prize £25

TWENTY HOLIDAY PRIZES OF £5 EACH.

50 CASH PRIZES OF 10s. EACH. 100 CASH PRIZES OF 5s. EACH.

4,000 HANDSOME PRIZES VALUE £900

AND 1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

IN FULL FLIGHT	IN POSSESSION	SEVERE PENALTY	OFTEN REPEATED	LATER ON
WE ALL EXPECT	NOTE THE DIFFERENCE	WHEN DOCTORS DIFFER	GOOD EGG	DEMAND AND SUPPLY
PLAYING FOOTBALL	LOOKS WELL	CUPID'S ARROW	THROUGH THE KEYHOLE	NOT WORTH HAVING
THOU SHALT NOT	MARRIAGE SETTLEMENTS	ADDRESS UNKNOWN	HAND PAINTED	WOMEN'S VANITY
WELCOME VISITOR	PLEASE TURN OVER	RAPID DECLINE	PEOPLE SAY	A GOOD LOOK
A MAN TRAP	FACE VALUE	AFTER DINNER SPEECHES	LET WELL ALONE	ADVANCE AGENT
ALWAYS CHANGING	SCRATCHED	GOING BANKRUPT	SHARP PRACTICE	SEPARATION ORDER
TAKES SOME BEATING	WHEN SHORT	OPEN AIR TREATMENT	DONE BROWN	ROOM ON TOP

"Bullets" is the leading skill competition with most prizes and is the ONLY Competition in which EVERY Coupon received is judged by TWO DIFFERENT ADJUDICATORS.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "AFTER DINNER SPEECHES" and take the letters "T" and "D," using the word "Bridegroom" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "THE BRIDEGROOM'S DREAD." Or from the example "SEVERE PENALTY, the Bullet "SUFFRAGETTES EVADE" can be formed. Again, if you take the example "WE ALL EXPECT," using the letter "A" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "A HOLIDAY ANNUALLY."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see The "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, September 3rd.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(48) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 323

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated September 6th.

Closing date, Wednesday, September 3rd.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(48) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 323.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 48," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been selected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudicating staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered, by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

The Result of the above Competition will appear in our issue dated Sept. 20th.

RESULT OF 45TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

Mr. W. HARKINS,
135, Moston Lane,
Blackley,
Manchester.

Example.—GRANDMOTHERLY LEGISLATION.
Bullet.—MARBLES ABOLISHED NEXT.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. S. W. WILKINSON,
8, Holford Road,
Hampstead Heath,
London, N.W.

Example.—SATURDAY TO MONDAY.
Bullet.—MEANS "EMBRACING" SUNDAY.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

Mr. A. F MIDDLETON,
178, Plashet Road,
Upton Park, E.

Example.—THE COMING RACE.
Bullet.—MOTORISTS AND CRIPPLES.

20 HOLIDAY PRIZEWINNERS of £5 Each.

Mrs. ANNIE WEST, 29, St. Deny's Road, Southampton: DIRT CHEAP—CHAFFEURS THINK PEDESTRIANS.
Mr. J. SEARCH, 25, Fairlight Avenue, Harlesden, N.W.: OVER EXPOSED—SCARCELY POSSIBLE—"SWEATING."
Mr. CYRIL GREENSTED, 29, Brecknock Road, N.: RACE MEETINGS—AMERICANS AT MEALS
Mrs. J. E. NICHOLSON, 101, Orsett Road, Grays, Essex: DURING THE HOLIDAYS—"TAN" REPLACES "TANNERS."
Mr. L. TENNANT-WOODS, 115, Minard Road, Catford, S.E.: DURING THE HOLIDAYS—EVERY DAY LADY-DAY.
Mr. R. WOODCRAFT, 34, Chalcot Crescent, Regent's Park Rd., N. DURING THE HOLIDAYS—LATITUDE OF ATTITUDE.
Mr. A. SAWYER, S.R. Barracks, Hamilton, N.B.: QUITE UNNECESSARY—COMMONS AGAIN ASSEMBLING.
Mr. J. FAULKS, 118, Wellesley St., Hockley, Birmingham: STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE—GARDEN VERSUS CATS.
Mr. W. BOLLANDS, 27, Balaclava Street, Stockton: SLASHED SKIRTS—"SNEEZED" IN "HOBBLE."
Mr. S. J. DONNER, 22, Coniston Road, Earlsdon, Coventry: RACE MEETINGS—SERMONS ON "MOUNTS."
Mr. PETER GRANT, 24, Stanley Road, Trinity, Edinburgh: OVER EXPOSED—SALVATIONISTS' LUNG POWER.
Mr. W. S. FRENCH, 1, Jerusalem Street, Belfast, Ireland: CIVIL WAR—A MEXICAN INDUSTRY.
Mr. J. A. GRAHAM, 39, Havelock Street, Dowanhill, Glasgow. THE COMING RACE—MONOPOLISES PUNTER'S EVENINGS.
Mr. JAMES DRURY, 6, Lane Top, Linthwaite, Huddersfield' Yorks: FRIENDLY RELATIONS—TERM "EFFICIENCY," "LUCK."
Mr. W. W. TURNER, 95, Ellerton Road, Surbiton: DURING THE HOLIDAYS—"DIGGINGS" YIELD GOLD.
Mr. S. HAMMOND (Manager), London Central Meat Co., Ltd. Holbeach, Lincs.: A LITTLE FLUTTER—RECTOR ADVOCATES RAFFLE.
Mr. R G DAVIES, 19, Corporation Road, Newport, Mon.: STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE—TRAGEDIAN'S REAL TRAGEDY.
Mr. C. E. MOSS, 31, College Court, Hammersmith, W.: SLASHED SKIRTS—"HOT"—BUT DRAUGHTY.
Mr. ARTHUR STONE, 48, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth: DIRT CHEAP—HOLIDAY IN "DREAMLAND."
Mr. H. J. COOPER, care of John Chambers, Ltd., Engineering, Works, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft: DISILLUSIONED—DARLING TO DARNING.

50 PRIZEWINNERS of 10/. Each.

BAILEY, G. H., 58, Victoria Road, Aldershot
BALL, G. J. M., Thoroton Street, Nottingham.
BELLAMY, A., 424, New Chester Road, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
BODDEN, C. E., 3, North View, Whickham, Durham.
BONNELL, Mr., 78, Bramcote Road, South Bermondsey, S.E.
BOWDEN, L. W., 37, Lisson Grove, Plymouth.
CANHAM, A. H. L., 5, Half Moon Street, Portsea, Portsmouth.
CARR, A. C., 148, Lavenham Road, Catford, Kent.
COLLIER, W. A., Westgrove, Grovelands Road, Reading.
COLLINGE, G., Riverside, Cork-Blackrock, Ireland.
CRIGHTON, J., 15, Houldsworth Street, Newmains, Lanarkshire.
DARE, C., Nook, South Woodham, Essex.
DICKMAN, T., Junr., 86, Philip Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
DUNCAN, J. W., 15, Drumry Road, Clydebank.
EVANS, F., Mrs., 12, Broad Street, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
FOULKS, G., 26, Leg Street, Oswestry.
FORD, M., Miss, 40, Victoria Street, Sheffield.
FOX, P., Emobye, Shepton Mallet.
FRANKS, W. J., 119, De Beauvoir Road, Kingsland, N.
GLOVER, BEATRICE, Mrs., 93, Lymington Avenue, Wood Green, N.
GOODING, J., Idsworth, Horndean, Hants.
GRAHAM, E., Green Room Club, W.C.
HENDERSON, R. H., 28, Promenade, Cheltenham.
HODGSON, F. L., Hermitage Street, Crewkerne, Somerset.
JACKS, ROSE M., 4, Edenhurst Road, Mile End, Stockport.
JAQUES, A., 59, Seymour Avenue, Plymouth.
KING, A. H., 222, Brownhill Road, Catford, S.E.
LAMERIS, J., 13, Grantham Road, Chiswick, W.
LANCASTER, C., 12, Government Road, Hoylake, Chester.
LEWIS, T. W., The Garage, 18, St. Johns Road, Putney, S.W.
LITHGOW, L., Mrs., 54, Warton Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
MALLEN, W., 126, Chestnut Avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.
MAWER, M. A., Miss, 8, Colwyn Street, Birkenhead.
NICOL, J. H., 38, Elmfield Avenue, Aberdeen.
PALLISER, A., 88, Highgate, Heaton Bridge, Yorks.
PEARCE, A. W., 1, Argyle Avenue, Eastville, Bristol.
POLLOCK, G. W., 27, Fletching Road, Clapton, N.E.
QUINN, T. M., Castlebar, Co. Mayo.
RUSSELL, R., 10, Neale Street, Ferryhill, Durham.
SAMPSON, B., Inverray, Swanage.
SLATER, J., 27, Roderick Street, Soho Street, Liverpool.
SMITH, G., 44, Norfolk Market Hall, Sheffield.
SPANN, L. M., Mrs., 37, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury.
VERTICAN, A., 47, Church Street, Drypool, Hull.
WALKER, H.; Mrs., Woodman Inn, Astwood Bank, Redditch.
WIGLESWORTH, M. H., 13, Bondicar Terrace, Blythe, Northumberland.
WILLIAMS, P. C., 110, Netherwood Road, West Kensington Park, W.
WILTON, W. J., Mrs., 10, Stuart Road, Gillingham, Kent.
WRIGHT, J. B., 348, Pollokshaw Road, Glasgow.
YATES, A. M., 22, Arkles Lane, Liverpool.

LIST OF 100 5s. PRIZE-WINNERS. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 45.

Acarnley, A., Bar, Canteen, Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth.
Adams, Maud, 102, Aylmer-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.
Adamson, J. C., 18, Dudley-cres., Leith.
Ainsworth, Miss E., 24, Taylor-st., Birches Head, Stoke-onTrent.
Anning, Mrs. E., 11, Beverley-rd., Highams Park, Chingford.
Arundel, F. R., Beach-grove, Great Ayton, Middlesbro'.
Ashton, W., 145, Hallgate, Cottingham, Hull.
Auty, Mrs., Plough Hotel, Moorsholm, Boosbeck.
Baird, E. W., 18, Woodhey Park, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.
Baldwin, Mrs. E., 5, Victoria-rd., Northenden, Manchester.
Bates, Mrs., 118, Hill-st. South, Liverpool.
Bragge, R. L., 111, Soho hill, Handsworth, Birmingham.
Bridgen, E. H., 124, Alexandra-rd., Ford, Devonport.
Britton, Mrs., 695, Alexandra-parade, Dennistoun, Glasgow.
Bumpstead, A. D., 46, Schubert-rd., Putney, S.W.
Butler, G., Drawing Office, Coventry Ordnance Works, Coventry.
Calderbank, H., Jubilee Villa, Adlington, Lancs.
Cashman, C., 32, Newburgh-rd., Acton, W.
Chambers, G. M., 110, Dairy House-rd. Derby.
Chambers, T, 75, Grange Park-rd., Leyton
Clark, A., 19, Parsons Green, Fulham.
Constable, T., Hurstwood, Uckfield, Sussex.
Corr, P., 84, Joy-st, Belfast.
Craig, W. D., 37, Kassassin-st., Portsmouth.
Crookes, A., 23, Landseer-st., Belfast.
Cross, T., 78, St. Albans-rd., Watford.
Cummings, M. H., 115, Windsor-av., Gateshead.
Dale, P. H., 2, Dorset Cottages, Sun-lane, Gravesend, Kent.
Davies, H. F., Wyeland Villa, Putson, Hereford.
Dean, J. A., Gas Works House, Johnstown, Ruabon.
Deans, G., 46, Ashfield-rd., Altrincham.
Deans, F. M., 12, Czar-st., Deptford, S.E.
Dimond, J., s.s. Sir R. Buller, Guernsey.
Dixon, G., 171, Hylton-rd., Sunderland.
Doran, J., 132, Thornton-rd., Rusholme, Manchester.
East, J. H., 28, Wilson-st., New Wandsworth, S.W.
Elam, A., Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St Andrew's, Fife.
Elkin, Jeanne, 103, Sutton Court-rd., Chiswick, W.
Ellis, D. G., 123, Highcross-st., Leicester.
Evans, R., 6, Bold-sq., Chester.
Fisher, W. R., 38, Grange Park-rd., Leyton, N.E.
Francis, A., c/o A. Dan, Draper, 86, High-rd., Kilburn, N.W.
Gibson, A. J., 9, Kirkgate, Leeds.
Green, Miss G., 22, Station-st., Spalding, Lincs.
Hallett, W., 67, West Park-rd., Girlington, Bradford, Yorks.
Harper, H. E., 21, St. Botolph's-av., Sevenoaks, Kent.
Hartford, W., 41, Bloomsbury-sq., W.C.
Hand, H. F., 34, South-grove, Highgate.
Hill, Miss, 30a, Lordship-lane, E. Dulwich.
Hill, W., 1a, Morgan-st., Dundee.
Hodgson, E. J., 4, The Grove, Chapelfield, Norwich.
Horsley, W. H., 51, Brettenham-rd., Edmonton, N.
Howkins, Mrs., 46, Newgate, Barnard Castle, Durham.
Humphrey, B., 94, Southlands-rd., Bromley, Kent.
Hurman, B., 53, Elton-rd., Bishopston, Bristol.
James, H. W., 57, Moorgate-st., E.C.
Jenks, Mrs. E., 1, Fleetwood-rd., Willesden Green.
Johnson, D., 13, Thorne-st., Ettinghall, Wolverhampton.
Lem, T., 70, Bowdon-st., Sheffield.
Lockyer, F. B., Pleasantdale, Wilmot-rd., Malvern.
Lovelock, Miss, M., Staff Mather and Platt. Park Works, Newton Heath, Manchester.
Messenger, Mrs. J., 10, Newton-rd., Wealdstone, Middlesex.
Miller, H. S., 27, Alexandra-rd., Oxford.
Moore, J., 6, Richmond-hill, Blackfriars-rd., Salford.
Morris, Mrs. L., 93, Basingstoke-rd., Reading.
Newton, H., 2, Macroom-rd., Paddington.
Partridge, M., 36, Windsor-st., Chertsey, Surrey.
Peacock, J. W., 1, Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
Peasegood, E., 4, Desmond-av., Hull.
Phillips, A., 312, Goswell-rd., Clerkenwell.
Pickering, Mrs. E. M., 79, Lee-st., Hull.
Price, J. O., Beechwood, Chepstow-rd., Newport, Mon.
Procter, Miss A., 110, St. Chads-rd., Derby.
Reeves, E., 61, Holmesdale-rd., Reigate, Surrey.
Roberts, W. T., 69, Leander-rd., Thornton Heath, Surrey.
Robinson, H. L., c/o Brunswick Arms, St. John's, Worcester.
Rockley, P., 28, Beech-av., Sherwood-rise, Nottingham.
Roe, J., 35, Avenue-rd., Springburn, Glasgow.
Roots, W., 42, Fairfield-rd., Winchester, Hants.
Ross, Mrs. A., 72, Abbotsbury-rd., Weymouth.
Russell, D., Brean Down, North-st., Dudley.
Sanders, C., 77, Evershot-rd., Stroud Green, N.
Sands, W. A., 21, Regents-parade, Ballards-lane, North Finchley.
Slade, Miss M., The Lawns, Crewkerne, Somerset.
Smith, O. M., The Mead, Bishopsworth, Bristol.
Stacey, G., Honeysuckle Cottage, Chorley Wood.
Stone, A. J., Shortmead-st., Biggleswade.
Stone, S. J., 491, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, S.W.
Sutton, Mrs. E., 47, Bedford-rd., Clapham.
Thomas, Miss K., Cefn Cribbur, Post Office, Bridgend, Wales.
Thomas, Sallie M., Topcliffe Grange, Farnborough R.S.O., Kent.
Thompson, T., Edzell Villa, Sale, Ches.
Urwin, E., 33, Haydons-rd., South Wimbledon.
Vallance, Mrs. N. Y., 65, Henderson-rd., Edinburgh.
Vane, M. A., 42, Wellfield-rd., Streatham.
Watling, G. R., Atteborough, Norfolk.
Weller, C. E., 3, South Eastern-rd., Ramsgate.
Wells, Miss M., 22, Littledown-rd., Bournemouth.
Whiting, A. E., 150, Bramall-lane, Sheffield.
Whitworth, W., 38, Bow-lane, E.C.

Selection from List of 4,000 Special Prizes.

Iddenden, J. H., Fire Station, Willow-walk, Kentish Town, N.W.
Iles, Wm. E., 84, Somerleyton-rd., Brixton.
Imber, F., 24, Glendarvon-rd., Putney.
Imney, H., 135, Lewis-Edgs., Liverpool-rd., Highbury, N.
Inch, Mrs. J., 11, Wymark-av., Wood Green, N.
Ingham, W. E., c/o 54, Southgate-st., Leicester.
Ingham, A. H., 36, Ryedale, E. Dulwich.
Inglis, E. O., Hotel Messmer, Baden Baden, Germany.
Inglis, C. S., 13, Shaftesbury-rd., Southsea.
Ingram, J., 23, Garden-st., Preston.
Innis, Wm., 86, Wilson-rd., Birchfield, Birmingham.
Inrig, A. G., 19, Allison-st., Glasgow.
Inskipp, G., Aniwa, Canewdon-rd., Westcliff-on-Sea.
Ireland, V. A., "Rock House," Station-rd., Teddington.
Ironmonger, J. J., 81, Lord-st., Hoddesdon.
Irvine, Wm., 130, Agincourt-av., Belfast.
Irving, M. E., 56, Belle Vue-rd., Leeds.
Irving, T. C., Croft End, Frizington.
Irvine, J., 109 Leaveden-rd., Watford.
Isaacs, E., 12, Deyne-av., Rusholme, Manchester.
Isherwood, M., Sinnington S.O., Yorks.
Isherwood, Miss R., Meal Bank, Wray, Lancaster.
Ivermee, Miss A., 42, Sellincourt-rd., Tooting, S.W.
Ives, G., 32, Worley-rd., St. Albans, Herts.
Jack, P. M., Trafalgar, West Kilbride, N.B.
Jackson, F., 15, Cromwell-st., Lincoln.
Jackson, T. R., 34, Hawthorn-rd., Hirst, Ashington.
Jackson, R., 18, Cullercoats-st., Byker-on Tyne.
Jackson, Mrs. M. E., 67, St. Quintin-av., Kensington, W.
Jackson, H., 94, Charles-st., Swinton, Manchester.
Jackson, A., 11, Seminary-st., Leeds.
Jackson, Mrs. J. S., 126, Oldham-rd., Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Jackson, H., 2, Majenta Cottages, Ballard-lane North Finchley.
Jackson, Mrs. L., 16, Aberdour-rd., Goodmayes, Essex.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 322 and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——— & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date ——— of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 3rd.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter in dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Complete List of 1,000 Prize-winners of 2/6 each, and of all other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Prophetic.

To-day will see the race for the Ebor Handicap, a one-time very important event, but now of little account. Still it wants a horse with some class and possessing staying ability to win it, and one such is

AT LAST,

who is well handicapped, and is right at the top of her form. Last year's winner, Election, is much fancied again, and should be good business for a place.

Racing is all straight away this week with three days at York and two at Gatwick. We shall see some good animals out at the former venue, and the sport promises to be very interesting. To-day (Wednesday) the Convivial Produce Stakes lies between ASCENSEUR and DAN RUSSEL, and perhaps the former is just a little the better class. In the absence of Light Brigade, that good little horse KLEINFONTEIN ought to win the Duke of York's Stakes, and SLASH LANE should be worth support in the Londesborough Welter Handicap. To-morrow (Thursday)

LIGHT BRIGADE

is a good thing for the Great Yorkshire Stakes, and if the ground is soft enough to permit of her running GLORVINA will win the Gimcrack. In her absence Ambassador would be worth support.

HORNET'S BEAUTY*

for the Harewood Handicap is the best thing of the week, and PRINCE RUPERT can win the Middlethorpe Selling Handicap.

At Gatwick on Friday the best thing is

QUEEN ENA

for the Newdigate Welter Plate. SIR ORACLE must be supported again in the August Handicap, and PICTORIAL should take the Home Bred T.Y.O. Plate. On Saturday EVENING PLEASURE has a great chance in the County Handicap; NEVILLE HOLT should be good enough for the Sutton Handicap and IGNORAMUS for the Moderate Plate.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith.

"JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEP.—DERBY PRIZE WINNER AND OTHERS.—You can obtain all information from Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland (postage 2½d.).

GALE'S SPECIAL.—J. Hough (Levenshulme).—The statement of forty-five winners is quite correct, and, of the selections you mention, Buckstead, Sholebroke, Diadumenos and Potency were given on their telegrapned reports, the two last named being the only selections given on their Course Wires for the dates named.

SWEEPSTAKES.—F. G. H. (Punjab).—We do not recommend any of the firms mentioned. Connne yourself to Smallman and Terry, Geneva; H. Diamond, Lucerne; and the Totalisator, Lucerne.

TOTALISATOR (Lucerne).—R. W. (Lowestoft).—Perfectly straightforward and trustworthy.

DICK BELL (Lucerne).—CORIOLANUS.—The answer is in the negative.——H. G. (Ledbury).—We do not advise wasting money on proceedings.——A. E. (Greenwich).—We are afraid your chance is a poor one.

SPORTING ECHO.—A. W. (Nottingham).—Have nothing to do with this.

GALE'S PRIMUS WIRES.—R. A. (Nelson).—We believe these to be perfectly genuine. Glad you like our fountain pen.

"PICKMORE" (Bridlington).—J. R. (Edinburgh).—See that he picks none of yours.

CO-OPERATIVE SYNDICATE (Geneva).—W. S. H. (London), AND OTHERS.—We certainly do not advise "investment" in this concern.

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SMALLMAN AND TERRY (Geneva).—P. T. (Whiteinch), AND OTHERS.—You can obtain full particulars from Messrs. Smallman and Terry, for whose *bona-fides* we have frequently vouched. Geneva is sufficient address.

THE PILOT SYSTEM.—SHODDY.—In view of what you say as to your position, we should not advise you to embark upon any such form of speculation.

BOUVERET SPORTS CLUB.—WIRY (Hull) AND OTHERS.—We observe from the particulars you send us that these people have considerably amended their announcements and no longer talk of "£100,000 Sweepstakes." We should prefer, however, to advise you to confine your business to those firms with whose methods we are fully acquainted, such as Smallman and Terry, Geneva; H. Diamond or the Totalisator, Lucerne, Switzerland.

TIPSTER.—DOUBTFUL.—We believe the business referred to in your letter is honestly conducted.

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107 Racing Days

and during that time "Gale's Special" has given no less than

150 Winning Selections,

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